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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

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INSIDE

WORLD



Iran says it has successfully sent a monkey into space.

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CAMPUS LIFE



"Flipped learning" flips the time-honored model of classroom lecture and homework. ► PAGE 17

LIFE & STYLE



Taylor Swift is turning heads with her new, sexy look. ► PAGE 19

Pai quits NMC Foundation board. **PAGE 2**
\$15M needed to widen Rota seaport channel. **PAGE 3**

Work begins to include CNMI in US immigration reform bill

» **Alien workers don't want to be left out in any reform bill giving pathway to US citizenship for 11M illegals in mainland**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday that his office is now working on legislative language that will address the status of legal and documented third-country nationals in the CNMI once a national immigration reform bill is written.

RELATED NEWS

► **Immigration overhaul? GOP and Democratic senators vow action. PAGE 13**

"We anticipate that our own particular legislative proposal will be a part of legislation that Congress will eventually pass and the President can sign into law," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Nonresident worker groups separately said yesterday that the CNMI's long-term, legal foreign workers should not be left out at a time when Congress and the Obama administration are now leaning toward giving pathways to citizenship to some 11 million undocumented aliens in the U.S.

See BILL on Page 4

FICA tax refund filing underway

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Big and small companies employing workers from the Philippines under the transitional Commonwealth-only worker program are now preparing to claim refund of federal taxes paid as early as October 2011 up to December 2012 to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, based on interviews in yesterday's Society for Human Resources Management-CNMI Chapter general membership meeting on the topic of recent tax decisions affecting CNMI employers and employees.

This comes over a month after IRS announced that Filipinos working in the CNMI need not pay federal taxes up to

See FICA on Page 4

Man found dead in his apartment room

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A man was found dead yesterday afternoon inside his apartment room in Garapan, but there was no information yet whether the case is a homicide or not.

Acting police spokesman Sgt. Thomas A. Blas Jr. said the victim's name, age, and nationality have not been confirmed yet.

Blas said the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Bureau has not ruled out foul play and are looking at all angles into the incident.

"Patrol and CIB personnel are still conducting at-scene investigation of the incident," he said.

Blas said DPS received an emergency call at 1:23pm yesterday about a dead body. He said the first responding patrol officer found a dead person in an apartment unit located across the Chinen Ice Candy factory.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the scene at 4pm, police officers had yet to remove the body from the room. Federal Bureau of Investigation special

agent Haejun Park came and was seen putting on a protective suit. Several police officers were walking around the area, interviewing people.

Residents told *Saipan Tribune* that the dead person is "a tall black American" in his 50's.

They said the man had been staying alone for half a year now in one of the rooms on the first floor of a two-story apartment located in front of Chinen Ice Candy along Puti Nubio Avenue.

Police officers blocked a portion of the road in front of the apartment and cordoned off the area.

Residents said the apartment's caretaker discovered the body after smelling a foul odor and seeing large flies coming from the victim's room.

Residents said the caretaker peeped through the sliding door and saw the victim lying on the bed.

The caretaker reportedly noticed blood on the floor near the bed and saw that the victim's feet were already purple.

A neighbor said she has not seen the victim for four days already.

Neighbors said the victim was known for walking around Garapan and other areas on the island.



Police officers and firefighters cordon the front area of a two-story apartment in Garapan where a man was found dead inside his room yesterday afternoon. Investigators have not ruled out foul play.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

WITH 3 MORE ARTICLES ADOPTED

Ogumoro quits impeachment panel

terday, just like Rep. Teresita Santos (R-Rota).

Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), chairman of the Special Investigating Com-

» **No more Fitial allies in committee**

mittee on Impeachment, received Ogumoro's resignation letter yesterday, when the panel adopted three more articles of neglect related to the governor's

failure to discipline former attorney general Edward Buckingham for hosting a delegate candidate campaign in 2010, and for failure to appoint secretaries for the departments of Public Lands and Public Works.

Ogumoro's letter was dated Jan. 28 but was stamped received Jan. 29.

See OGUMORO on Page 4

Local

Pai quits NMC Foundation board

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Col-

lege Foundation board has lost another director after Joanna C. Pai tendered her resignation. Pai, in an email response to

Saipan Tribune, refused to comment about her departure from the foundation. Her resignation, however, was confirmed by

foundation president Alan Markoff yesterday.

Pai's departure leaves the foundation with only two direc-

tors, Markoff and David Burger.

According to Markoff, the foundation is in the process of using the interviews that its former consultant Steve West did for the board to find replacements. Markoff said composition of the foundation is expected to reach eight to 10 in the coming weeks. He confirmed that the additional directors will come from the community sector.

The NMC Board of Regents established the NMC Foundation in 1999 for the purpose of acquiring, managing, and disbursing funds from alternative sources to support the advancement of NMC's educational programs and services. The Foundation is a non-profit organization composed of community volunteers,

primarily from the business sector, who are dedicated to improving higher education in the CNMI by encouraging private and public support for NMC.

Last year, the number of Foundation board members began to go down after NMC Board Regents members who sit on the board were barred from participating after their appointments were deemed "illegal." Those eliminated included Juan T. Lizama and Frank Rabauliman. Among those who resigned were Ivan Quichoco and Yoichi Matsumura.

According to Markoff, "boards go through this sort of state when you have more than you need, sometimes you have less [members onboard]."

Tebuteb still chairs Saipan delegation

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (IR-Saipan) retained his chairmanship of the 21-member Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, while Sen. Francisco Borja (Ind-Tinian) was named chairman of the Tinian Legislative Delegation during separate organizational sessions yesterday.

The Saipan delegation held a 20-minute organization session yesterday morning, while the Tinian delegation held theirs in

the afternoon.

Rep. John Paul Sablan (Cov-Saipan) was elected vice chairman of the Saipan delegation, while Sen. Pete Reyes (IR-Saipan) retained his post as Saipan delegation floor leader.

The four-member Tinian delegation officers are as follows: Sen. Francisco Borja (Ind-Tinian), chairman; Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), vice chairman; Rep. Trenton Conner (Ind-Tinian), floor leader; and Senate Presi-

dent Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), legislative secretary.

Tebuteb, in his message to the Saipan delegation during the session, asked members to prioritize tourism-related projects in their respective precincts, to help spur economic activities. He noted "positive" signs that the CNMI's tourism industry is on its way to recovery, including growth in tourist arrivals and hotel occupancy.

He also asked members to

consider reprogramming funds that were previously appropriated but were not used during a certain period, to go toward other precinct projects. Tebuteb asked that members be cognizant of limited funding sources such as collections from developers' tax and poker license fees. He also said all delegation committees are equally important.



Tebuteb

» Borja heads Tinian delegation

Loan application is 'test run' for Small Business Credit Initiative

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority expects that a loan application they received will serve as a "test run" for the long-awaited launch of the State Small Business Credit Initiative in the CNMI.

Loan manager Oscar Camacho said in an interview that the agency has received one application for SSBCI, a program that provides federal funding to states and territories to strengthen programs that support private

lending to small businesses and manufacturers.

The CNMI Department of Commerce, the responsible agency for SSBCI, has already received \$4.35 million out of the available \$13 million in program funding.

CDA is the implementing agency for the two approved SSBCI programs in the Northern Marianas: the loan purchase participation program and the collateral support program.

Camacho said the "small" loan application, which amounts to under \$50,000, is for the loan

purchase participation program, which enables companies to acquire necessary financing that might be unavailable otherwise due to a cash flow shortage according to the lender's analysis.

"What this means is the program can purchase up to 40 percent of the loan to induce the bank, which I think is the reason why the bank is extending the loan," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Camacho declined to give further details about the loan application but said that they have forwarded about two weeks ago all documentation to the Michi-

gan Economic Development Corp., which will serve as CDA's third-party loan underwriter.

He said they are still waiting to get a response on the loan application from MEDC, which has yet to finalize a contract with CDA.

"With the loan application, I hope it will push them to get the contract done because there are SSBCI applicants waiting," said Camacho.

He added that he is in the process of filing his SSBCI quarterly report for the fourth quarter of 2012.

WPS students donate \$200 to help kids in Africa

The 3rd and 4th grade students from Whispering Palms School recently donated \$200 to the American Red Cross to support programs in Africa. Ariya McGuire, Subin Cho, Jon Villagomez and Blake Mister were the student coordinators with help from Subin's mom, Sophie Cho.

The Red Cross currently supports humanitarian relief work in many countries in Africa including Botswana, Horn of Africa, Kenya, Namibia, North Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

In addition, the American Red Cross, in collaboration with



Teachers and students from Whispering Palms School have their picture taken with American Red Cross executive director John Hirsh. Other photo shows bake sale coordinators Ariya McGuire, Subin Cho, Jon Villagomez, and Blake Mister.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

the United Nations, has helped vaccinate millions of children against measles and rubella.

For more information about the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission, contact the NMI Chapter at 234-3459 or go to www.redcross.org. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS Class of '83 sets meeting

The MHS Class of 1983 would like to invite everyone to their general meeting on Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe, by the Civil Center Beach, at 7pm. If you have any question, call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665. (PR)

Red Cross sets health and safety trainings

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct Preparedness Health & Safety training on the following dates:

- Jan. 30 at 6pm: Infant & Child CPR/AED
- Jan. 31 at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED Blended Learning
- Feb. 2 at 8am: Adult CPR/AED
- Feb. 5 at 5:30pm: First Aid Blended Learning

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Blended Learning courses involve online courses with in-person skills exam. Course fees apply. For more information on the courses listed or other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459. (PR)

SSHS sets half-day session

Southern High School will have a half-day session for Cluster Professional Development on Feb. 6, 2013. Students will be released at 1:05pm and the bus will pick up the students at 1:05pm. Students will attend all their classes and lunch will be served. For more information, contact the administrative office at 237-3710. (PR)

FOA presents 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

It is nearly February, and time for the Friends of the Arts annual dinner theater for lovers and friends. This year Friends of the Arts is featuring one of the greatest of Shakespeare's comedies, *A Midsummer's Night Dream*. This year's Valentine's special can be watched at the

Pacific Islands Club on the evenings of Feb. 14, 15 with a matinee on the 17th. (PR)

KHS half-day schedule today

Kagman High School will have a half-day schedule today, Jan. 30, 2013, and Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013, for the 2nd quarter final examinations. Students will be released at 1pm after lunch. Report card day is set for Feb. 7, 2013, regular school session and no half-day, dismissal at 3pm. Report cards will be sent home with the student(s). Please ask your child for his or her report card on this day. For more information, call KHS main office at 664-3780. (PR)

MHS class of '83 general meeting on Feb. 5

The Marianas High School class of 1983 will hold its general meeting on Feb. 5, 2013, 7pm at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion on the Civic Center Beach in Susupe. (PR)

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Jan. 28 to Feb. 1, from 8am to 4pm. The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Jan. 29-30, from 9am to 5pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (PR)



'No leads in couple's murder but probe continues'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Police cannot afford to drop its investigation into the murder of a couple in San Vicente last December, according to acting Department of Public Safety commissioner Sgt. James C. Deleon Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last week, said the murder of Jun Li Yang and his wife, Jing Liu, touches him in a lot of ways.

"We have a 6-year-old boy who was unable to celebrate Christmas with his parents. And to me that is a major, major in-

justice," he said.

The victims' son was at Mt. Carmel School when his parents were killed inside their home.

"We cannot afford to drop the ball on this one," Deleon Guerrero said, adding that the investigation is ongoing.

He admitted, though, that they have no significant leads at

this point to lead them to a suspect or suspects.

"But in terms of focus, there are still investigators that are continuing to go up there and interviewing people," he said.

Even if police have yet to solve yet this case and other pending homicide incidents, Deleon Guerrero believes the

important thing is that the focus of the investigation is continuing.

Jun Li Yang, 50, and Jing Liu, 40, were found murdered inside their home in San Vicente on Dec. 8, 2012. Police checked the residence after the couple failed to pick up their 6-year-old son from Mt. Carmel School on

Dec. 6, 2012.

The couple's car, a white 2010 Honda CRV, was found abandoned at Micro Beach in Garapan.

Jing Liu was president, treasurer and secretary of a company that was planning to put up a recycling center and engage in apartment rental.

CPA: \$15M needed to widen Rota seaport channel

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The challenge in shipping commodities and other supplies to Rota won't be resolved unless the existing seaport channel is widened to accommodate bigger vessels, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority seaport manager Maryann Lizama.

Lizama told the ports authority board Friday that the seaport channel cannot accommodate vessels that are longer than 235 feet and that the only way for the port to be accessed by bigger vessels is to widen its channel opening, which will require \$15 million, based on a previ-

ous CPA study.

"It's going to take \$15 million to open and widen the channel," Lizama told the board.

The limited capacity of the Rota port also prevents smaller vessels from coming in during bad weather, she said.

Sea vessels going to Rota use the west harbor, which Lizama described as somewhat "calm" and "sheltered" compared to the

east side, which the Rota municipality wants to develop into a bigger port.

CPA officials said the board has not discussed any plans for this purpose yet.

Board member Barry Toves appealed to the CPA board to identify ways on how the ports authority can help Rota. He pointed out that the port's limited capacity always results in a shortage of commodities and supplies on Rota.

Due to the difficulties of shipping products to Rota, Toves revealed that people are forced to buy their basic commodities at extremely high prices. He disclosed that some storeowners on island, just to get the necessary supplies for their customers, are forced to ship their goods via airplane, which is costly. This

extra shipping expense is then passed on to customers.

"We rely heavily on seaport facilities to facilitate our needs. Rota has not enough shipment of commodities and if we do, there's big disparity in prices of products. I guess what I am trying to say here [is] what can CPA do to help alleviate this problem?" asked Toves.

CPA seaports facilities committee chair Benigno Sablan, for his part, said he will talk to private boat owners to see if they are available, even during bad weather, to go down and ship commodities for Rota. But Sablan admitted that due to the present economic state of businesses, it will also be a challenge for CPA to get boat owners who are willing to do it even it means incurring higher expenses.

Jury selection begins for Weindl's trial

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona began yesterday afternoon the process of selecting the jurors who will decide the fate of former school principal Thomas Weindl.

Saipan Tribune learned that the jury selection will continue in the afternoon today, Wednesday.

Manglona informed prospective jurors that the charges against Weindl are one count of receipt of child pornography and one count of access with intent to view child pornography, that occurred on June 18, 2012.

The judge said according to the charges, the material contains "still image or video files depicting minor children engaging in sexually explicit conduct, including oral sex, sexual intercourse and the lascivious exhibition of the genitals and pubic area."

On Monday, assistant U.S. attorney Rami S. Badawy moved to dismiss two counts of the same charges over an incident on June 15, 2012.

Badawy said he filed the motion because, after a review of the evidence and some recent filings, the government has concluded that it is unlikely to prove its case on counts 1 and 2.

The prosecution alleged that Weindl, using a Public School System-issued netbook, searched for and accessed almost 200 websites containing images of child pornography.

The defendant pleaded not guilty. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



CHAMPION SPELLER

The champion of the first CNMI-PSS State Level Spelling Bee Competition, Ezekiel Rafanan, is flanked by his parents, Reynaldo and Arlene, during the awarding rites Saturday at the Pedro Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Others in photo are Hopwood Junior High principal Jonas Barcinas, first from left, and competition coordinator Lynnette Villagomez.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

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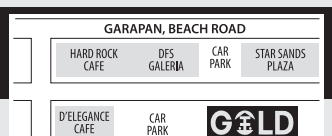
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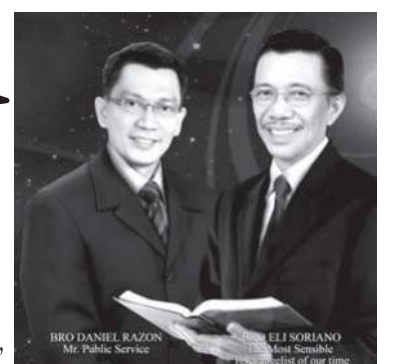
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'MPAs not only preserve resources but also culture'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

A former lawmaker maintained that the establishment of the Managaha Marine Conservation Area and other marine protected areas in the CNMI has led to the preservation not just of the islands' marine life but also the indigenous culture.

Heinz Hofschneider, who authored Public Law 12-12 or the Managaha Marine Conservation Act of 2000, said yesterday that the protection of marine resources ensures that future generations will get to know and enjoy the cultural practices of their ancestors.

"We need to find a way to preserve our resources so that we can continue teaching our kids our culture. If all our resources disappear, what good is our culture? If we cannot teach what our forefathers have taught and shown us, then we fail our future generations," he said.

Hofschneider served as the keynote speaker at the 2013 Marine Protected Areas Workshop organized by the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

Some 130 island leaders, local and visiting conservation officials and students, business executives, and other stakeholders attended the whole-day workshop that served as a venue to give updates regarding the MPAs in the Northern Marianas and other Pacific Islands and to exchange valuable insights in the management and enforcement of such areas.

In his address, Hofschneider said it took 12 years, three legislative bodies, and one governor to finally come up with the law that finally designated Managaha, a popular area among residents and tourists alike, an MPA.

There are seven MPAs with varying restriction levels throughout the Commonwealth, plus the Marianas

Trench National Marine Monument, which was established in 2009 to protect an estimated 95,216 miles of submerged lands and waters in the Mariana archipelago.

In developing the Managaha Marine Conservation Area, Hofschneider recounted how he endured verbal abuse from members of the public who, for years, were not previously restricted from harvesting resources from these areas.

He said, though, that modern technology and population increase have influenced the community to depart from its former practice in the old days when fishing is done only for daily sustenance, ending up exploiting aquatic resources that manifested in fish catch level reduction.

The Managaha conservation area, Hofschneider noted, allows locals and tourists to enjoy the island while preserving vulnerable marine species in surrounding waters.

"We need to come together as a com-



CLARISSA V. DAVID

The 2013 Marine Protected Areas Workshop kicks off at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan yesterday.

munity and as a people so that the marine sanctuary can be a jewel not only for visitors but for us locals," he said. "What we're trying to do when protecting these areas is to let our kids enjoy it.

Let's not exploit it."

Hofschneider also cited the need to educate people, starting with the islands' youth, to raise awareness about these conservation efforts.

OGUMORO

From Page 1

Sablan, in an interview during recess, said the resignation of the minority members "is beyond our control" and is quite disappointing.

"They were given an opportunity to be represented in the committee. In a way, I am disappointed that they decided to withdraw from the committee. But we have to move on. We have a public mandate to fulfill. Now we leave it up to the minority leader to work with the speaker on replacements," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ogumoro defended the governor at every turn during committee meetings

on Thursday and Friday, especially on the allegations related to the unauthorized release of a federal inmate to massage the governor in his private residence in January 2010.

Ogumoro was absent from the meeting on Monday and Tuesday without advance notice, until Sablan received yesterday her letter of resignation "effective immediately."

"My work on House Resolution 18-2 will resume when the full House meets to act on said resolution," Ogumoro said in her one-page letter.

Minority leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) said yesterday that a letter to the speaker shall be forthcoming. He, however, said he has yet to receive a request from the speaker

or the impeachment panel chair requesting replacements from the minority group.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan) appointed seven members to the committee, of which two are from the four-member minority bloc.

Sablan said Camacho recused himself from committee membership last year because his brother, former delegate and now Associate Judge Joe Camacho, was involved in one of the allegations, specifically Article 10, which the panel adopted with amendment yesterday.

"This leaves Rep. Richard Seman as possible replacement but again we leave it up to the minority group," Sa-

blan added.

In yesterday's meeting, the committee adopted Article 10, a neglect charge, by a vote of 5-0.

The committee adopted an amendment to this article, to insert a phrase that the governor failed to "impose employment sanctions or otherwise discipline" Buckingham.

The former AG allegedly either solicited, conspired to commit, committed, or countenanced the violation of the federal Hatch Act and provisions of the Commonwealth Code pertaining to the use of public funds, employees, time or equipment during political campaigns.

Also by a vote of 5-0, the committee adopted Article 17, a neglect charge, on

the governor's failure to appoint a DPL secretary.

The committee also adopted by a vote of 5-0 Article 18, also a neglect charge, related to Fitial's failure to nominate a DPW secretary.

With 10 articles already adopted since Thursday, the committee has only eight remaining articles to vote on before recommending action to the full House of Representatives.

The committee wrapped up its meeting at around 4:40pm yesterday, and will resume at 1:30pm today. The proceedings are aired on Channel 60.

Fitial can be impeached in the House and convicted in the Senate on any one of the 18 articles of felony, corruption, and neglect of duty.

FICA

From Page 1

Dec. 31, 2014, when the immigration transition period ends.

At the time, it wasn't clear whether Filipino employees and their employers could refund their Federal Insurance Contribution Act, or FICA, tax contributions.

FICA covers Social Security and Medicare taxes.

David J. Burger, CPA, of Burger and Comer P.C., the guest speaker in yesterday's SHRM-CNMI Chapter general membership meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan's SandCastle, said the IRS notice in December didn't cover refund but he said this is the time to "test" the system.

Burger and other SHRM members

said there is no harm in trying to file refund with IRS. The SHRM meeting was well attended.

"As far as I know, it has not been tested yet. It's time to test it... We don't know if they're going to cut the check yet," Burger said when asked whether there's indication from IRS that it will refund these Filipino CW workers and their employers.

He said some of their firm's clients have started preparing refund filing.

Burger said one construction firm, for example, is looking at claiming refunds of over \$100,000 in employee and employer contributions.

"The logic that we're applying here is that these people that paid into the system will never get a benefit. It's like [returning] a premium on an insurance policy. They're not covered by the insurance so return the premium," he said.

The Fital administration sued the IRS/U.S. Treasury over the FICA tax deductions but withdrew the lawsuit to facilitate direct settlement discussions.

It has said the federal taxes on Filipino and Korean workers could result in \$24 million in annual "illegal taxes" that could have been circulating in the local economy.

A 30-year-old accountant for a retail store said their company has been planning on filing for refund with IRS "but we have been waiting for clarity or guidance on how to go about it."

After hearing Burger's presentation at the SHRM meeting, she said her company is now more prepared to go through the process.

Burger guided members and guests of SHRM on filling out Form 941-X, for example, to claim their refund.

"We might be filing for refund by the

second week of February," the accountant said.

'Efficiency'

Burger, during his presentation and in an interview later, recommends that employers file refund for themselves and their employees for efficiency.

"I think that's the more efficient way to do it. Let's say you have 30 employees and you're the employer. You can file one 941-X for the quarter to get the employer share and employee share, or you could file one 941-X and get back the employer share and then each one of the 30 people has to file their own form... It's just more efficient for one form to go in, money comes back from IRS, the employer distributes," he told reporters.

"Employers who withheld FICA taxes from their CW workers, and also

paid the employer's share, must file form 194-X to claim the refund," he said in his presentation.

A 37-year-old accounting associate from the Philippines said it is welcome news that there is a mechanism to claim tax refund.

"As a CW worker, there is no guarantee that we will benefit from these tax deductions," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

She said an average of \$27.84 is being deducted from her payroll for FICA tax per pay period, and is expecting a refund of about \$ 723.84.

Another accountant said Burger's presentation at the SHRM meeting "confirmed" the process of claiming refund with IRS.

"We were ready to apply for refund but we were waiting for this presentation. We should be able to file refund soon," she said. "There's no harm in trying."

BILL

From Page 1

mainland.

President Barack Obama will deliver a speech highlighting immigration reform in Las Vegas Tuesday (Wednesday, CNMI time).

Sablan said he and others are looking forward to the president's speech on immigration.

Sablan's public investiture in the CNMI will be held this morning, for his third term as the CNMI's first and so far only nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Carlito Marquez, an alien worker advocate on Saipan, said yesterday

that recent developments related to national immigration reform should give renewed hope to long-term legal alien workers in the CNMI.

He said it's welcome news that this early in Obama's second term, immigration reform is being worked on.

"And I hope that Kilili will push for his new version of HR 1466, very timely, with the changes in the Office of Insular Affairs and labor. I guess the reason why immigration reform wasn't moving in the past years was that borders were not secured yet. Now that they are, I hope immigration reform will really move but maybe with threshold," Marquez said.

Bonifacio Sagana, president of Dekada Movement, said U.S. lawmak-

ers should be made aware that there are thousands of legal foreign workers working for years and decades on U.S. soil—in the CNMI—that have long been deprived of improved immigration status.

"And this is the best time for Mr. Kilili Sablan to get this message to his colleagues in Congress who are willing to give pathway to citizenship to millions of illegal aliens in the U.S.," Sagana said in a phone interview.

Sablan has been working on the matter.

"We have been working on legislative language that we want included once a bill is written, either in the Senate or the House, or from the Administration, that will address the status of

legal and documented third-country nationals here in the Northern Mariana Islands," he said.

Florida-based human rights advocate and former CNMI teacher Wendy Doromal said yesterday that "now is the time to educate members of Congress across party lines of the plight of the legal, long-term foreign workers and their urgent need for permanent residency status."

This comes at a time when the transitional Commonwealth-only worker program is ending on Dec. 31, 2014.

A bipartisan working team of U.S. senators has just released a four-page bipartisan framework on comprehensive immigration reform.

Senators working on the bill include

Sens. Charles Schumer (D-NY), Richard Durbin (D-IL), John McCain (R-AZ), Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Jeff Flake (R-AZ) and Michael F. Bennet (D-CO).

Sablan said this bipartisan Senate immigration blueprint "is a positive step."

He said the bipartisan blueprint's tough but fair approach provides a foundation for the legislation that is needed.

"It is a good first step but there are still lots of work that needs to be done before people can sign on the dotted lines. But this is a workable outline, although the pathway to citizenship part will be the most difficult sticking point," he added.

No permanent doctor identified yet for Tinian

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian Health Center resident director William Cing disclosed yesterday that the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has yet to decide on the transfer of a doctor from Rota to work at the Tinian clinic.

While waiting for word from the corporation, a midlevel provider is taking charge of the delivery of healthcare services to Tinian patients, Cing said, referring to nurse practitioner Arley Long, who he said works Monday to Friday and is on-call during weekends.

The corporation temporarily assigned Dr. Dan Lamar to the Tinian center after Dr. Frank Pair died on Jan. 8. Cing said this assignment lasted only a week and was later covered by Long who came returned from personal leave.

Cing stressed that nothing has changed in the delivery of services at the Tinian Health Center. He said the process remains the same: The midlevel provider makes the initial diagnosis, treatment, and refers patients to

the Commonwealth Health Center for further tests and evaluation. All emergency cases are referred to Saipan.

THC, which mostly serves as an outpatient clinic, accommo-

» **Midlevel provider takes charge of delivery of healthcare at THC**

dates a stable number of about 25 to 30 patients daily, he said, while about two to four patients usually come in on weekends.

In view of the critical need for a permanent physician at THC,

the corporation wants to re-assign one of the two physicians on Rota to Tinian. The choice is between Drs. Francois Claassens and James Toskas, who've both been working at the Rota Health Center for many years now.

The Tinian Health Center has been operating without a

full-time doctor since Dr. Steven Lebamoff's resignation last year. Pair was recruited in October last year through an agency and was hired under an independent contract.

THC has about 30 personnel including its resident director. These employees include nine

nurses, a laboratory technician, an x-ray technician, two pharmacists, two staff for environmental health, one staff for the medical supply office, two for housekeeping, two trade maintenance workers, and three at its accounting unit. THC provides both inpatient and emergency care.



CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING

Twenty-seven Division of Youth Services and Department of Community and Cultural Affairs employees completed a 10-hour course on customer service at the Northern Marianas College. Offered by the NMC Community Development Institute, the professional development course begins a series of trainings for DYS staff intended to enhance and improve workforce skills. Participants received their certificates of competence in recognition of continued educational development for completing 10 hours of the training. Photo shows trainer Chavel Green, seated far left, and CDI staff Orrin O. Pharmin in a group photo with DYS staff after the completion of training.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Airport's lack of water rescue plan raises concerns

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For the many years that the Commonwealth Ports Authority has been in operation, there has been no certified water rescue plan in place at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, according to CPA board members who expressed frustration over the long absence of an important requirement.

Board member Benigno Sablan, chairman of the board sea-

ports facilities committee, disclosed that, compared to Guam and Pohnpei, CPA has yet to develop a water rescue plan.

Based on Federal Aviation Administration guidelines, airport officials responsible for emergency preparedness must develop an airport emergency plan that includes a section on water rescue. This should specify any specialized rescue training and equipment needed to provide safe water rescue services, given the airport's prox-

imity to bodies of water. The plan should also address the unique character or type of water around the airport as it may be a critical factor in emergency planning.

Juan T. Dela Cruz, the assistant chief of operations for the Airport Ports Police, was called in to shed light on the water rescue plan issue. The official admitted that he has not seen such a plan and is not aware if one is being developed by the ports police. Dela Cruz told the board

that he will communicate the board's concern to his superior.

"For the last two years, we are concerned that no water rescue plan has been certified by FAA, unlike Guam and Pohnpei. I asked the administration to get a copy of the certification [of either these two] and take a look at it and maybe have it in our plan," said Sablan, who said he was earlier made to believe and understand that CPA has such a plan in place.

According to acting board

chair Manny Villagomez, the importance of a water rescue plan was emphasized by the Federal Aviation Administration during its conference in Guam last year. Villagomez, along with other board members, was among the event's participants.

"In that conference, it's mandatory that we have a water rescue plan. I think it's long overdue and we need to act now. I don't know why it takes us so long to have our own waster rescue plan," Villagomez said.

The board on Friday instructed the ports police of-

ficial to come up with water rescue plan by the end of February. Certification of this plan is targeted to be completed three months after its submission to the board.

"I would like to see this water rescue plan be certified by FAA after three months," said Sablan.

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THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| CITY TRUST BANK, |) | CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0054 |
| Plaintiff, |) | |
| -v- |) | |
| DANIEL JOSEPH M. CABRERA and MAGDALENA S. CABRERA, |) | |
| Defendants. |) | |

NINTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 19, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: (a) Lot No. 0051180, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005102, the original of which was recorded on March 11, 1983, as Document No. 16707, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan; and (b) Tract No. 225840-1-1, located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on DLS Check No. 2119/92, deeded to Daniel Muna Cabrera on August 24, 1998, and recorded as File No. 99-2096 on September 3, 1999.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 1, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 23rd day of January, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| CITY TRUST BANK, |) | CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0514 |
| Plaintiff, |) | |
| -v- |) | |
| SUZETTE O. SASAMOTO and FELIX SASAMOTO, JR., |) | |
| Defendants. |) | |

FOURTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 21, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 1508, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, and containing an area of 780 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011/G 30, the original of which was recorded on May 11, 1994, as Document No. 94-1218, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 1, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 23rd day of January, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

RAMON K. QUICHOCHO, ESQ. (CNMI Bar No. F0243)
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MICHAEL V. DOTTIS, ESQ. (CNMI Bar No. F0150)
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Email: attorneys@pacific-lawyers.com

Attorneys

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| JESUS S. CABRERA, ROMANA U. MARATTA, BRINAE JESSLYN M. CRUZ, a minor represented by her next friend Janet U. Maratita, AND KAYHANA FAITH C. MANGLONA, a minor represented by her next friend Janae M. Cabrera, AND PRIYANTHA WIJAYAGUNARATNE, |) | CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0277 |
| Plaintiffs, |) | |
| -v- |) | |
| STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC., JACOB McHENRY, AND DOES 1-10, |) | FIRST AMENDED SUMMONS |
| Defendants. |) | |

TO: JACOB McHENRY

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the First Amended Complaint, which is served herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this First Amended Summons upon you and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Plaintiffs' attorneys: Ramon K. Quichocho, Esq., and Michael V. Dotts, Esq., whose addresses are:

Law Offices of Ramon K. Quichocho, LLC
Karisa Center, 1st Floor, Pale Armoird Rd., Gualo Rai
P.O. Box 505621
Saipan, MP 96950

and
O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes
2nd Floor, Marianas Business Plaza
P.O. Box 501969
Saipan, MP 96950

as soon as practicable after filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of the Superior Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this First Amended Summons, judgment by default will be taken against you to the relief demanded in the First Amended Complaint.

By order of this Court, dated this 22 day of January, 2013.

PATRICK V. DIAZ
Clerk of Court

By: /s/ Deputy Clerk

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| CITY TRUST BANK, |) | CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1054 |
| Plaintiff, |) | |
| -v- |) | |
| JUAN R. SABLAN and ANGELINE F. SABLAN, |) | |
| Defendants. |) | |

NINTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 10, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Real property situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, designed as Lot E.A. 839 NEW-6-3, containing an area of 1,329 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. E.A. 839 NEW.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 1, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 23rd day of January, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-13-014**

**GROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES
FOR CUC WATER & WASTEWATER FACILITIES, SAIPAN**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms capable of providing Ground Maintenance Services for CUC Water and Wastewater facilities in Saipan, in compliance with USEPA inspection and sanitary survey requirements.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of \$80.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-014, Ground Maintenance Services for CUC Water and Wastewater facilities, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 21, 2013, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A mandatory pre-bid conference followed by a site visit is scheduled for January 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Saipan, to ensure prospective bidders are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions.

CUC will award a contract to more than one firm for said services, based on bids for "Service Section" pursuant to Scope-of-Work.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidder due to lack of information or understanding of the site conditions in the course of bidder's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 8, 2013 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Paul Raczkowski, Water/Wastewater Manager via address paul.raczkowski@cucgov.org

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Seven schools confirmed so far for Parade of Books

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Seven public and private elementary schools in the CNMI have confirmed their participation in the 2013 Parade of Books organized by the Rotary Club of Saipan.

Rotarian and event coordinator Reina Camacho noted that only two of these schools have already decided on the book that they will interpret for the competition.

"We're on track," Camacho

told Rotarians Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Parade of Books, slated for April 13, Saturday, at the Marianas High School Gymnasium, is an annual competition open to local elementary schools and aims to encourage literacy and creativity in a fun and innovative way by allowing them to create a performance reflecting their chosen books to win cash prizes.



Camacho

This year's theme is "Legends and Myths of the Marianas and Micronesia," which was selected based on the result of a survey completed by last year's participants.

"Everybody knew what they were getting into from the very beginning," she said.

Of the seven confirmed participants, only two schools so far have registered their books: Sirena for Dandan Elementary School and Flame Tree for

Garapan Elementary School.

Other schools that will compete are Eucon International School, Mount Carmel School, Kagman, Kobleville, and San Vicente elementary schools.

Participating schools are given two references, Legends of Micronesia and Pacific Island Legends, which contain more than 30 legends to choose from.

"We encourage schools to choose and perform different legends because we want their creativity to stand out," Camacho added.

She noted, however, that participants find it "quite challenging" to come up with a script that would accommodate up to 35 students in one presentation under five minutes.

Schools are encouraged to incorporate the native language in their performance to make it exciting, she said, reminding them that the focus of their performance is the interpretation of the book, not the costumes and props.

Camacho revealed that the reigning champion, Oleai Elementary School, and other par-

ticipants from last year have not signed up for the 2013 Parade of Books.

"It is not too late to join the event," she said.

The deadline for registration is March 1. Interested participants are invited to attend the next planning meeting at 4pm on Feb. 21, Thursday to be held at one of the beach pavilions along Beach Road in San Jose.

To register or for more information, email reinacamacho@gmail.com or saipanrotary@gmail.com.

Local farmers urged to avail of NRCS programs

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Agricultural producers in the CNMI can benefit from some of the programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service as they have open applications year-round, according to district conservationist Kendal Hicks.

Hicks, who has 16 years of NRCS service under his belt, served as guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting yesterday at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

He said that farmers do not have to wait for a designated time and are encouraged to come to the NRCS office along Beach Road in Garapan "sooner than later" and find out what programs can meet their needs.

Hicks told Rotarians that the primary requirement for those who want to apply for their programs is to show that they have control over the land—be it ownership or lease—for the duration of the program contract.

Most contracts, Hicks noted,

span from two to four years.

"If you can show proof of control over the land, you could be eligible. We work with very small farming operations," he said.

Hicks discussed some of the programs that NRCS administers for eligible farmers in the Commonwealth, including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. EQIP is a cost share reimbursement program that helps farmers implement conservation practices.

The program, he added, allows the farmers to address agricultural-related issues in partnership with NRCS and other environmental agencies such as the Division of Environmental Quality and the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Another program is the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program or WHIP, a voluntary program

for conservation-minded landowners who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on agricultural land. Hicks said he is trying to make WHIP funding once again available for the Commonwealth.

NRCS also has the Emergency Watershed Protection Program, the purpose of which is to undertake emergency measures for runoff retardation and soil erosion prevention, safeguarding lives and property from natural occurrences.

Hicks said NRCS has been active in the islands through other activities such as participation in the annual Environmental Expo where they reach out to the youth and talk about the agency's programs and the importance of sustaining the CNMI's natural resources.

He urged the public to get in touch with any of the staff of NRCS for more information about conservation planning and assistance. Visit the agency located at DY Building next to Naked Fish along Beach Road or call 233-3415.



Camacho

Scheduled power interruption on Sat.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has scheduled a power interruption on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, from 8:30am to 12:30pm.

The purpose of the interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow the CUC line crew to safely perform system maintenance by replacing two rotten power poles in

the upper Dandan Homestead area near Gatbo Av.

Water services may be affected in the area during the power interruption; however, all services should be restored after the power is re-energized.

Areas that will be affected are from the former San Vicente Round House south on

Dandan Road to the Flame Tree Road intersection and east toward the Hawaiian Rock Quarry to the Obyan areas.

Because of the scale of the work that will be performed, travelers are urged to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas. (CUC)

NMC invites Tinian community to Climb Higher Summit



A participant in the Northern Marianas College's first Climb Higher Summit held in October 2012 shares her stories with other participants.

The Northern Marianas College will be hosting a Climb Higher Summit on Tinian that aims to help "non-traditional students"—who are usually struggling to balance jobs, budgets, and parenting—advance their professional careers by earning a college degree or obtain more training.

The majority of today's college students across the U.S. no longer fit the traditional model of students between the ages of 18 to 22 and usually attending college right after high school.

"Today, there are many more students that are considered 'nontraditional' students who are enrolling in college," according to NMC president Sharon Hart, Ph.D. "These students are usually older, have delayed enrolling in college because they entered the workforce right after high school, have full or part-time jobs, or are juggling other obligations like caring for children."

The purpose of the Climb

Higher Summit, made possible through the College Access Challenge Grant Program, is to provide these nontraditional students with the information they need to earn their degrees through the availability of flexible class schedules, more financial aid options, and other resources that are specifically designed for individuals are trying to balance work, family, and personal commitments.

"Earning a degree has never been more important than now," said Leo Pangelinan, dean of Student Services. "High school graduation is no longer a sufficient path leading to a good paying job. More and more jobs are requiring college degrees now."

"There's no doubt a college degree can lead to higher salaries, more job prospects, better opportunities for promotions, and more marketable job skills," Pangelinan added. "In fact, according to national statistics, the average earning for those with

a bachelor's degree is \$45,000, while the average was \$30,000 for those with a high school diploma or its equivalent."

The free Tinian Climb Higher Summit will be filled with information like finding money to pay for college, degree and short-term nondegree program offerings (like grant writing, dental assistant training, medical billing and coding, and more), and the admissions process.

The Northern Marianas College will be hosting two sessions of the Climb Higher Summit on Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2013. The first session is from 8:30am to 12pm and the second session will be from 1:30pm to 5pm in Room D at the NMC Tinian Instructional Site. Registration for the Summit is free, but seats are limited, so participants are encouraged to register early by calling 433-0657, 433-0649, or email mariaa@nmcnet.edu. (NMC)



VISITING ROTARIAN

Visiting attorney William R. Satterberg, Jr., center, is flanked by Rotary Club of Saipan president Pete Shilling and secretary Richard Cody after exchanging club banners during Tuesday's meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan. Satterberg, who visits the CNMI with his wife about six times a year, is a member of the Rotary Club of Fairbanks in Alaska.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

My hero, best friend, everything, and most of all the person who will forever be a father and grandfather to my boys, to my amazing father Jacpot "Bolis" Pangelinan, happy birthday! We love you and may you have many more birthdays to come. Greetings come from Marissa, DJ, Jerrico, and the Bolis family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



MMAC committee gears up for 11th staging of signature fundraiser



Volunteer members of the 2013 Marianas March Against Cancer Committee smile for the camera following a presentation of donation at Traders Insurance last month.

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2013 Marianas March Against Cancer promises to mark its 11th anniversary with the usual activities that has made this signature fundraising event well known over the years.

MMAC Committee overall chair Emanuel Borja said they have begun preparations for the event, slated for April 26 to 27 from 6pm to 6am at the Hopwood Jr. High School field in Chalan Piao, which yearly draws thousands of participants.

Besides Borja, the committee is composed of Rachel Roque, over-

all vice chair; Dave Guerrero and Atdao Rosario, accounting and registration; LJ Castro, entertainment; Jenypy Sambile and Krizia Mendoza, luminary; Christopher A. Concepcion, public relations; Vinycia Seman, logistics; Reina Camacho, sponsorship; Nola Hix, survivors; Catherine Attao Toves and Betty Kosam, team recruitment and incentive prizes; Janine Nogis, t-shirts and trophies; and David Rosario, senior adviser.

Borja said the 12-hour event will feature anew various teams competing in any of the following categories: *Pulan* (families), *Napu* (schools), *Puti'un* (businesses), and *Atdao* (non-profit/

government agencies). Participating teams will be competing to win best tent, best baton, most money raised in each category, most luminaries sold, most spirit, and most laps.

"We are looking for more families, businesses, schools, non-profit organizations and government agencies to participate as teams," he said, pointing out that a combination of any two categories is allowed with the registration fee to be determined by the committee.

Interested participants are invited to attend the next meeting at 5:30pm on Feb. 7, Thursday, at the DFS Saipan conference

room or contact 285-1828 or at-taoc@yahoo.com.

Another important part of MMAC, Borja said, is the annual survivors' dinner held in honor of cancer survivors and those currently undergoing cancer treatment.

"Every one of us knows

someone who has been affected by cancer and the survivor ceremony is our chance to celebrate their perseverance and strength," said Borja.

Each survivor will be given a complimentary dinner buffet wherein they will be awarded a unique medallion and t-shirt commemorating their fight against cancer. Survivors are encouraged to contact 989-6652 or email nola.hix@gmail.com.

The MMAC is also highlighted by the luminary ceremony in which lit candles are placed inside white bags bearing the name of a family member touched by cancer. Each luminary costs \$5. To purchase, contact 287-9324 or email jenypysambile@gmail.com or mariakrizia@gmail.com.

Borja said they are still seeking monetary or in-kind donations from businesses, individuals, and organizations. For inquiries, contact 989-7346 or email reinacamacho@gmail.com.

"We raised a record amount last year and we hope to match or exceed that this year," said Borja. "With this being the 11th year of the MMAC, we are confident that the community will come out in full force in support of the battle against cancer."

For more information, visit www.ccamarianas.org or contact Borja at 989-1987 or emanuel.borja@gmail.com, Rachel Roque at 989-1247 or remroque@gmail.com.

DEQ seeks volunteers for beach cleanup

The Division of Environmental Quality's Cleanup Brigade will be picking up trash at Makaka Beach, Garapan this Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, at 8am.

If you would like to volunteer, meet the DEQ representatives on Saturday at the Makaka Beach parking lot (behind ABC Store) at 8am. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a brigade t-shirt.

Last month's Tank Beach Cleanup drew 16 volunteers: students from Tanapag Head Start, Tanapag Elementary School, NMC, CUC, MA-FEA, a resident from Kagman, and other volunteers. About 180 lbs of marine debris was removed from the beach and properly disposed of.

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. **(DEQ)**

Energy promo to be held on Tinian

The CNMI Energy Division will be hosting a Compact Fluorescent Lights Event to provide Tinian residents the opportunity to receive free energy-efficient Energy Star-rated bulbs to help reduce their home's energy consumption and to encourage and promote energy conservation within the CNMI.

The EECBG staff will be distributing eight energy-efficient Energy Star-rated CFL's and a reusable bag to each residential

consumer at the Tinian CUC Payment Center, conference room.

The event will be held on the dates specified below and CFL's will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies lasts.

■ Jan. 31, 2013: 9:30am to 4pm

■ Feb. 1, 2013: 8am to 2:30pm

In order to receive the CFL's and the re-usable bag, residential consumers must present a

valid identification card with photo and a copy of their most recent CUC utility bill with their name on the billing. Only one re-usable bag containing 8 CFLs will be issued per household. Businesses are not eligible to participate in the event.

For more information, visit the CNMI Energy Division's website at www.cnmienergy.com or call the Energy Division's EECBG Office at (670) 664-4487/89/90. **(PR)**

First Bereaved Families support group meeting

A group that is in the process of forming a Compassionate Friends chapter on Saipan will be holding its first grief support meeting on Thursday, Feb. 7, from 6pm to 7:30pm, at the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

The group offers understanding and hope to bereaved parents, siblings, and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause.

"We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting

and supporting each other, and listening. We have 'been there.' We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no 'right way' to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen," the group said in a statement.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today

more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and Guam offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, call Jill Derickson at 287-5337 or e-mail jilld@pticom.com. To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. **(PR)**

Julianna Dior Manglona Ogo
January 5, 2012 – January 28, 2013

On Monday, January 28, 2013, our beautiful and angelic baby, one-year old Julianna Dior, was called by Our Almighty Father to join the choirs of Heaven. Her sudden passing left us with immeasurable grief.

We will bid her farewell this Thursday, January 31, 2013, at Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa with viewing at 8:00 a.m. and Responso at 10:30 a.m. Burial immediately follows at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Our family is eternally grateful for all the kind words of condolences and support.

Joseph M. Ogo, Jr. and Deanna M. Manglona
Grandparents Joseph M. and Sylvia S. Ogo and Paul A. and Lydia M. Manglona
Great grandfather Prudencio T. Manglona

GCA students have stellar showing at PGFC



Grace Christian Academy's January PGFC winners have their picture taken inside the GCA campus.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bagging the most number of first place awards, the administration, faculty and staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy would like to extend their congratulations to the following winners and everyone who participated in the second Primary Grades Forensic Conference competition held at Mount Carmel School last Saturday, Jan. 19, 2013. PGFC competitions encourage public and private school students to participate in and become proficient in the forensic arts: reading, public speaking, and interpretations.

K-2 DIVISION

Impromptu Speaking A

Brandie Matsumoto, 1st place

Matthew Ernest, 2nd place

Deancey Chua, 4th place

Ryan Daproza, 5th place

Impromptu Speaking B

Juruel Neilan Magtalas, 1st place

Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 3rd place

Kei Lizama, 4th place

Dramatic Interpretation A

Juruel Neilan Magtalas, 2nd place

Julianna Rue Magtalas, 3rd place

Steven Adriatico, 4th place

Duo Interpretation A

Julianna Rue Magtalas, 1st place

Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 1st place

Readers Forum Masters A

Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 1st place

Shielly Yoon, 2nd place

Readers Forum Masters B

Ryan Daproza, 1st place

Deancey Chua, 2nd place

3-5 DIVISION

Impromptu Speaking A

Elijah Joshua Pajarillaga, 1st place

Na Lee Lee, 2nd place

Luis Jerome Gaspar, 3rd place

Clerisse Dacumos, 5th place

Impromptu Speaking B

Heather Angel Pangilinan, 1st place

Arvin Dayao, 2nd place

Matt Jason Moran, 3rd place

Jim Michael Ham, 4th place

Reader's Forum A

Julia Kim, 4th place

Reader's Forum B

Gianpaolo Borromeo, 1st place

Reader's Forum Masters A

Elijah Joshua Pajarillaga, 2nd place

Jimin Woo, 3rd place

Reader's Forum Masters B

Matt Jason Moran, 1st place

Tae Yong Kim, 2nd place

Dramatic Interpretation A

Robert Hanrey Schorr, 5th place

Humorous Interpretation A

Robert Hanrey Schorr, 4th place

Volunteer judges:

Beatrice Fatialofa, Rowena Libut, Zuriel Chua, Meriam Cabading, Oceana Aldan, Kayla Sasaki

PGFC coordinator: Esther Manzano

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jan. 30, 2001

PSS develops alternate assessments

Public School System educators, with a Hawaii-based program specialist, initiated Friday discussions on how the local public education sector can reinforce the inclusion of students with disabilities in state-wide assessments as mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Acting Associate Commissioner for Secondary Education Rita A. Sablan underscored the need to establish a firm set of guidelines that would accommodate students who are not able participate in district-wide tests due to certain physical or mental disabilities. The IDEA requires that PSS be able to demonstrate that children with disabilities are included in general state and district-wide assessment programs with appropriate accommodations and modifications in administration.

OVR consumer programs improve

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation yesterday expressed high hopes the agency will eventually lose its high risk status following the positive result of the ongoing technical assistance programs to consumers. OVR was removed from the reimbursement status in November 1999 which State Rehabilitation Council Chair Ramon C. Dela Cruz noted as a major progress due to collaborative efforts of various agencies. Mr. Dela Cruz said the remarkable improvements over the past year has impressed the Region 9 Rehabilitation Service Administration after the on-site inspection conducted in February last year.

Jan. 30, 2002

Foreign doctors bill axed

Amid strong opposition from the health sector, Gov. Juan N. Babauta vetoed a bill that seeks to allow licensure of foreign medical practitioners in the Commonwealth. House Bill 12-355, also known as the Foreign Doctors Licensure Act, is tossed back to both chambers of the Legislature, which both need a two-thirds vote of their respective members if they intend to override the veto. Had it been passed into law, the bill would effectively amend Section 2227(a), Title 3 of the Commonwealth Code, which provides for reciprocity licensing to physicians from the US mainland and its territories.

Saga of CUC's \$51.5M debt continues

Sen. Pete P. Reyes has revived a measure he authored in the 12th Legislature that seeks to transfer the indebtedness of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. from the Commonwealth Development Authority to the Department of Finance. At the same time, Senate Bill 13-5 seeks to ensure that any repayments made by the CUC to CDA should go to an account called Capital Improvement Projects Local Match Fund, to be used as a source for the matching requirement for CIP funds. Reyes said CUC should be provided with greater flexibility in settling this debt and any repayments it may make for these loans should benefit the Commonwealth and should be used to address the Commonwealth Infrastructure Program needs in the CNMI.

Jan. 30, 2003

BoR: Spare NMC from politics

The Northern Marianas College Board of Regents prefers to oversee the NMC operations independently and free from any form of political pressure, BoR Chairman Vince Seman said. In particular, Seman was referring to the recent calls of Saipan Rep. Stanley Torres for NMC president Kenneth Wright to relinquish his position due to his alleged questionable actions following his entry last August. "The accreditation standards mandate that there be no political interference and I believe that's also a constitutional mandate," Seman said. "I'm also a representative of people in the sense that I have my own constituent as a board official, but certainly I won't go and tell the legislator how to do his job."

User fee totals \$7.8M in 1st quarter

User fee payments for the garment industry posted a slight 7 percent increase in the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2003 compared to the same period last year but the figure is still far below the numbers posted in 1999, 2000 and 2001. At the same time, the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association reports that the volume in dozens of apparel produced still remains approximately 5 percent down from the industry's peak year in 1999. According to SGMA, the drastic drop in sales-and the resulting drop in user fees paid to the CNMI government-is attributed to the nearly 20 percent decline in the sales price the Saipan factories can get in the global marketplace.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Mila Merjilla, Green Meadow School president, and teachers/coaches join the GMS participants and winners of the forensic competition held at Koblerville Elementary School on Jan. 19, 2013.

GMS students win honors at PGFC

Students from Green Meadow School once again shone at the Primary Grade Forensic Conference held at Koblerville Elementary School on Jan. 19, 2013.

Jill Anne Mallari, who won first places in two categories, led the team in winning other top honors in the K-2 Division. Fifth graders Natalie Hirsbein and Ashley Reganit outshone other contestants by winning first places in Dramatic Interpretation and Duo Interpretation in the 3-5 Division. The rest of the members of the GMS teams are also to be commended for their outstanding achievements in other categories in their respective divisions.

Congratulations to all the GMS participants and winners! The school administration and parents wish to express their sincere appreciation to all the trainers,

coaches and supporters. Thanks also to parents and teachers from GMS who supported PGFC by serving as judges.

K-2 DIVISION

Dramatic Interpretation

Jill Anne Mallari, 1st place

Humorous Interpretation

Jill Anne Mallari, 1st place

Ariel Alysa Legaspi, 2nd place

Raphael Galang, 3rd place

Impromptu Speaking

Andrielle Coloma, 2nd place

Duo Interpretation

Kezia Arugay, 2nd place

Cloe Lagmay, 2nd place

Areeza Anda, 4th place

Ariel Alysa Legaspi, 4th place

Reader's Forum MA

Kezia Arugay, 3rd place

Christian Ted Pamintuan, 4th place

Andrielle Coloma, 5th place

Reader's Forum MB

Angeline Faith Cacdac, 5th place

Choral Speaking

Jeremiah Alfred, 4th place

Patrick Dwayne Gregorio, 4th place

Elijah Umali, 4th place

Aiyanah Nunez, 4th place

Reader's Forum A

Nicole Sacramento, 5th place

3-5 DIVISION

Dramatic Interpretation

Natalie Jane Hirshbein, 1st place

Duo Interpretation

Natalie Jane Hirshbein, 1st place

Ashley Reganit, 1st place

Gia Gerrine Hemley, 5th place

Mikee Mame Mendoza, 5th place

Dramatic Interpretation

Joshua Alfred, 2nd place

Reader's Forum MA

Robin Agbayani, 4th place

Choral Speaking

Art Vincent Alfeche, 5th place

Kimvherly Ann Dela Cruz, 5th place

Ian Willard Ranin, 5th place

Ashley Reganit, 5th place

Coaches:

Sony Natividad, Manuel Castro, Meliza Umali,

Eleonor Alejo, Bona Angeles,

Ana Liza Quiambao

PGFC coordinator: Eleonor Alejo



BRIDGE CAPITAL DONATION

Alan Perez, Bridge Capital office manager, hands over a \$1,000 donation to John Hirsh, American Red Cross NMI Chapter executive director, and Nola Hicks, in support of Operation Homefront Support, which sends out care packages to active service members from the CNMI stationed around the world. The Homefront Support program last year sent out 277 care packages to NMI service members. Through the generous support of Bridge Capital and other donors, the Homefront support volunteer team was able to pack up and send boxes that included cards and letters and local goodies from the islands this holiday season.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guam International Film Festival calls for entries

HAGATÑA, Guam—The Guam International Film Festival has officially announced its open call for entries to begin on Feb. 1, for its third annual event scheduled to take place in September. Submission forms can be completed directly online at the official GIFF website, www.guamfilmfestival.org.

Deadlines to submit films for the 2013 Guam International Film Festival are:

¼ April 5, 2013: Earlybird postmark deadline

¼ June 7, 2013: Regular deadline

¼ July 5, 2013: Late deadline

¼ July 19, 2013: WAB extended postmark deadline

Festival categories for both feature-length and short films include Narrative, Documentary, Animation, Made in the Marianas, Music Video and Student Under 18. Submission fees are waived for entries that qualify for the Made in the Marianas and Student Under 18 categories. Works that are eligible must have been completed after Jan. 1, 2012.

The submission form and complete information regarding eligibility and official entry rules for the 2013 Guam International Film Festival are available on the GIFF website at www.guamfilmfestival.org.

"In just two years we've seen tremendous growth in not only the amount of submissions and global awareness of the Guam International Film Festival, but also the caliber of filmmaking that has come to our shores," said GIFF program director Kel Muna. "Nearly 200 submissions from 27 different countries featuring Oscar winners and local filmmakers have made its way to GIFF last year. We're very excited to see what's in store for 2013."

Background

The Guam International Film Festival is the first and only annual U.S. film festival in the Western Pacific.

Founded by filmmakers Don and Kel Muna in 2011, it is an international cinema event exhibiting

a dynamic source of cross-cultural artistic presence, bridging gaps among the United States, Asia, and the Pacific's multi-

lingual population and region. GIFF's mission is to foster cultural understanding through the art of cinema while providing opportunities for local talent to flourish through the international cinema market. In its

brief history, GIFF has already screened works featuring some of the most notable U.S. talent including Oscar winner Alex Gibney, Emmy winner Sasha Alpert, Adam Brody, Gwen Stefani, Jay Duplass, Richard Gere, Stan Lee, and Roger Corman as well as top Asian talent such as Kazuhiro Soda (Japan), Benito Bautista (Philippines), Sang-Cheol Lee, Ah-Ga Shin (Korea) and Yeh Tien-Lun (Taiwan).

GIFF has also screened world and U.S. premieres for Guam films including I Heart GU (2011) and Mga Dayo: Resident Aliens (2012).

For more information, visit GIFF at www.guamfilmfestival.org, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. **(PR)**

ON THE NET

www.guamfilmfestival.org



Kanoa Resort
Saipan

(1) GUEST RELATIONS AGENT (RUSSIAN MARKET)

Our Resort is looking for a candidate with previous Front Desk or Hotel Administration experience who is results driven and customer focused. He/she will take an active role within the Front Office and perform tasks in accordance with the Resort's business objectives.

As Guest Relations Agent, the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Greeting, registering and assigning rooms to guests and checking out guests
- Keeping records of room assignments and updating other registration information on computers.
- Communicating with Russian guests other Departments regarding guest issues and requests
- Implementing high service quality to exceed guests' expectations
- Dealing with guest inquiries and service related issues

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education: High school graduate
- Minimum Experience: Two years of experience in a related field/similar role or in a high volume hospitality environment at as a Front Desk or Guest Relations Staff
- Ability to speak and write in Russian
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Excellent communication, organizational, and multitasking skills are a must
- Team player

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than February 04, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Interior officials meet with Fitia, Inos on CHC

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Visiting acting Interior deputy assistant secretary for Insular Affairs Eileen Sobock and Sally Howard, chief of staff of U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, led a group of federal officials in a courtesy visit to Gov. Benigno R. Fitia and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos Monday morning, and discussed issues mostly about the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

The visit comes shortly after Tony Babauta resigned as Interior deputy assistant secretary for Insular Affairs. The resignation is effective Feb. 1.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, however, said that Babauta's replacement "was not a subject" of Monday's 9am meeting at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill.

"The courtesy visit was simply for the visiting officials to inform the administration on the purpose of their visit, mainly to evaluate the progress at CHC since the deployment of the Commission Corps. At the same time, the officials will use this opportunity to begin planning and projecting what types of challenges will still need to

be addressed moving forward," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

When asked whether the governor will ask for additional help for CHC, Demapan said, "This will be dependent on the findings of the group after this trip and the exit report at the end of the Commission Corps' 90-day deployment period in March."

Accompanying Sobock and Howard were Office of Insular Affairs legal counsel Wendy Fink and OIA Director Nik Pula, along with other OIA officials.

In December, then acting governor Eloy S. Inos announced the signing of a memorandum of understand-

ing between the CNMI and U.S. agencies, paving the way for a team of medical staff from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to start providing critically needed medical personnel to CHC for 90 days.

This is an unprecedented joint effort among federal agencies to help meet the CNMI's immediate health care needs.

Under the MOU, the U.S. will be providing a deputy chief executive officer, clinical laboratories director, clinical laboratories manager, nurse manager, pharmacist, physicians, and nurses, to CHC.

The hospital is currently under a state of emergency.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Department of Commerce regulations under Title 20, Chapter 20-40, **Global Insurance, Inc.** issues this **PUBLIC NOTICE** of its intent to petition for the release of its security deposit in escrow for Global Insurance, Inc. issued labor surety bonds.

Any objection to such release must be filed within one week from the date of last publication of this notice to the CNMI Office of the Insurance Commissioner, Capital Hill, Saipan MP 96950



Kanoa Resort
Saipan

[1] EXECUTIVE CHEF (CHINESE CUISINE)

Our Resort is looking for a professional candidate with a solid Executive Chef and Chinese Cuisine experience who will help develop and implement the strategic direction of the Resort's Chinese food offering through product and menu development and by supporting the kitchen teams and monitoring and reviewing product consistency and quality at all times.

As the Chinese Cuisine Executive Chef, the responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Collaborating with higher management and other Chefs to develop and plan menu requirements, serving arrangements and other related details
- Enforcing and following compliance procedures for sanitation & cleanliness and monitoring workstations & staff for adherence to those procedures.
- Providing training to strengthen his/her team's current performance and monitoring cooks and chefs for proper skills and service
- Maintaining food cost at reasonable levels without affecting quality and standards

Qualifications:

- Minimum Education: Vocational School or Associate's Degree graduate or equivalent years of relevant experience
- Minimum Experience: Five years of experience cooking and preparing Chinese food in a high-volume food service facility or in a high volume hospitality environment and at least three years in an Executive Chef or similar role.
- Excellent cooking skills and extensive knowledge of Chinese Cuisine and food handling procedures with regard to public health standards
- Demonstrated aptitude for the financial aspects of food operation, including the successful identification of expense reduction through cost control
- Ability to speak English clearly, distinctly and cordially with guests
- Ability to work flexible hours including nights, weekends, and holidays
- Excellent communication, organizational, and multitasking skills are a must
- Team player

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application Forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our Resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than January 30, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

By **ALLAN CHERNOFF**
Los Angeles Times

Allan Chernoff is a former senior correspondent for CNN and CNBC. He is completing a communal memoir of the survivors of the town of Tomaszow Mazowiecki, Poland. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



Coming back to life after the Holocaust

Happy birthday!" my mom and her first cousin wished each other on Sunday, even though neither was born on Jan. 27. Rather, it's the anniversary of their new lease on life, of the day the Soviet Red Army liberated them from behind the barbed wire of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945.

My mom, Rena Margulies Chernoff, was 11 then, and her cousin Frieda Tenenbaum was 10. They were among the very few children who somehow survived the infamous death camp, where more than a million people—mostly Jews, including more than 200,000 children, but also gays, Poles, Soviet prisoners of war, Roma and Sinti (Gypsies)—were slaughtered.

For many years after their liberation, Rena, Frieda and a few other Auschwitz child survivors gathered to celebrate their "birthday," sharing tears and laughter, flowers, food and drink. Together, they explored their tragic past, and in doing so helped each other to heal.

It didn't seem likely, in those last days before the Soviets arrived, that my mother and her cousin would survive. Nazi guards ordered prisoners to line up by the camp's gates for evacuation marches. Rena, Frieda and their mothers, convinced they couldn't survive a death march, sneaked off to a deserted barracks to hide under the wood slats of the lowest bunk. They quietly cowered against the frozen ground as Nazi guards screamed "Alle Juden Raus!" ("All Jews Out!") and scoured the camp for stragglers, who were then shot to death.

Silence eventually replaced the sounds of violence. The guards had evacuated, allowing the girls and their mothers to return to the hospital barracks that had been their most recent shelter. Even so, death surrounded them. Starving musselmen, a term for the most physically and emotionally spent prisoners, collapsed and died before their eyes.

Those who retained a bit of strength raided the kitchen and broke into a warehouse, where they found blankets and layers of clothing to protect against the cold. But the situation was still desperate.

A week later, Jan. 27, 1945, dawned clear and brilliantly sunny at Auschwitz. Prisoners first noticed what appeared to be dogs off in the distance, tramping through deep snow. But as the figures approached it became clear they were soldiers, bundled in coats and fur hats, approaching the camp. When they realized it was the Soviets, who had come to liberate them, many of the survivors hugged one another and cried with joy.

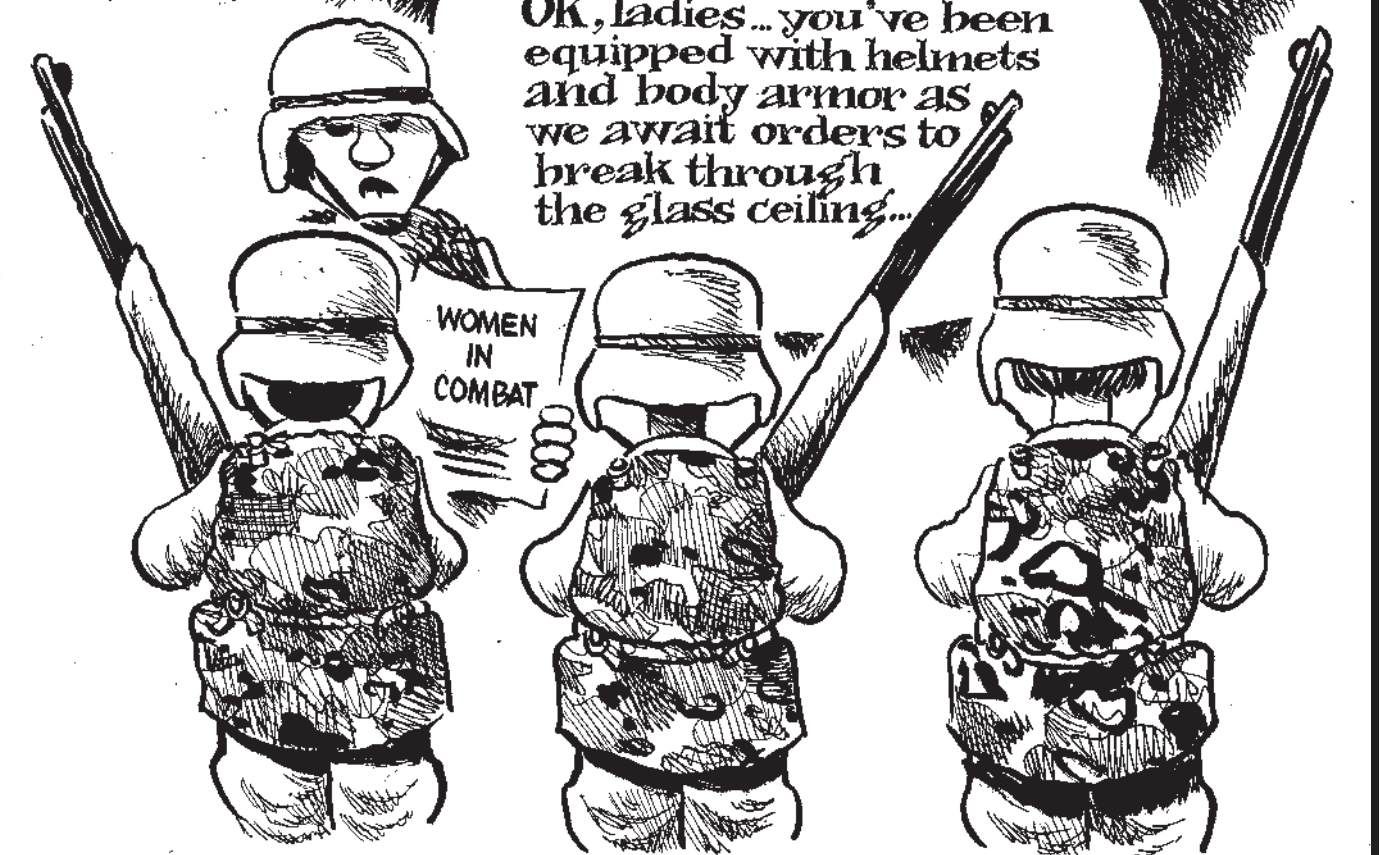
But some of the inmates, including my mother, weren't capable of elation. She describes feeling numb, ill with tuberculosis and struggling to come to terms with all she had endured.

Indeed, the Soviet soldiers themselves were unprepared for the pitiful sights they encountered in the camps. Their leader, Gen. Vasily Petrenko, entered the hospital barracks and broke down in tears.

An army film crew soon afterward handed Rena a striped prisoner's uniform to wear, then recorded her and other children walk-

See **COMING** on Next Page

MARGULIES

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Rethinking our China strategy

By **GARY SCHMITT** and **DAN BLUMENTHAL**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Senate committees will soon be asked to vote on President Obama's nominees to head the departments of State and Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency. Many, if not most, of the senators' questions will be focused on the nominees' views on the pressing security problems the United States faces in the greater Middle East and Afghanistan. But it would be a mistake for the committees to let the hearings pass without also examining the administration's own stated policy priority—the "pivot" or "rebalance" to the Asia-Pacific region.

A productive discussion of the pivot, however, will require a frank acknowledgment that the primary factor driving the change is increased nervousness in Washington and Asian capitals about China's rise and, in turn, recognition that the U.S. policy of engagement with China has not been as effective in shaping that rise as successive administrations, Republican and Democratic, had hoped.

On this point, it is particularly useful to reread then-Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick's 2005 speech in which he famously invited Beijing to become a "responsible stakeholder" in the international system. Since the late 1970s, the United States had been, as Zoellick put it, "opening doors to China's membership into the international system" with the expectation that doing so would lead to change in Chinese behavior as it saw the security and economic benefits of that system. By no means a China "hawk," Zoellick provided a reasonable set of benchmarks for judging just how successful engagement would be in moving China along the path of a benign rise to great-power status.

So, what does the score card look like?

To start, Zoellick noted that, although China had "gained much from its membership in an open, rules-based international economic system," its mercantilist economic policies put in doubt its commitment to that system's underlying principles. And little has changed on that front. China keeps its currency undervalued to promote its exports, limits foreign access to its markets and treats natural resources as exclusive national assets. The government has done little to rein in intellectual property piracy or commercial cyber-espionage. State-owned banks still dominate China's financial sector, and Beijing-driven industrial policies have increased, not decreased, in recent years.

Another point of contention Zoellick hoped the Chinese would address was the lack of transparency when it came to China's military buildup. But despite repeated U.S. initiatives, military-to-military exchanges have produced little of substance, and American intelligence continues to be surprised as some new Chinese weapons system is rolled out of its hangar or deployed at sea. Even during

some of the roughest patches of the Cold War, the White House had a direct hot line to the Kremlin, and we knew, by mutual agreement, how many strategic warheads and missiles the Soviets had. With China, we haven't a clue.

On North Korea, only Beijing has the ability to pressure or persuade Pyongyang to change behavior. Yet North Korea continues to stockpile nuclear weapons and is bent on perfecting missiles that threaten our allies and, soon enough, the United States.

If there is any good news, China's direct role in proliferating has lessened. And while the recent vote by Beijing in support of the U.N. Security Council resolution condemning North Korea's last missile test is a small but positive step, Beijing has not used its considerable leverage with Pyongyang to stop North Korea's proliferation, and has dragged its feet on helping the rest of the world deal with the destabilizing impact of Iran's nuclear program. As Zoellick noted, "China's actions on Iran's nuclear program will reveal the seriousness of China's commitment to nonproliferation" and, so far, its record falls short of that mark.

And, finally, Zoellick said that "China's choices about Taiwan will send an important message too. ... It is important for China to resolve its differences with Taiwan peacefully." However, despite the most conciliatory government in Taiwan since the establishment of the People's Republic of China, Beijing's military buildup across from the island democracy has not diminished. Since Zoellick's speech, China has taken an even more aggressive posture toward its neighbors, with confrontations with Japan in the East China Sea and Vietnam and the Philippines in the South China Sea.

So what does this assessment of Chinese behavior mean for U.S. policy in an Obama second term? First, it reinforces the administration's rationale for upping America's strategic game in the Asia-Pacific region.

Second, it means that, to the extent engagement is pursued, it should be with an eye to what is mutually and concretely beneficial, not with the expectation that the process itself will lead to China's transformation.

Finding the right balance in U.S.-China policy is a complex task. But the first step for the new secretaries of State and Defense in getting it right must be to understand what engagement can and can't do, and to realize it is unlikely that China will become a member in good standing of the liberal international order until its leaders have made the decision to become liberal at home.

Gary Schmitt is director of the Marilyn Ware Center for Securities Studies at the American Enterprise Institute, and Dan Blumenthal is director of Asian Studies at the American Enterprise Institute. They wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Revisiting QC law a must

The CNMI has a budgetary shortfall of at least \$250 million. It's a major indicator of cataclysmic (disastrous) economic conditions at home. It makes it mandatory that we revisit the law on Qualifying Certificate to see if it has worked or failed.

Appalling, though, the decision by this administration to grant huge Qualifying Certificates (tax breaks) to the rich while others are left to fend for themselves. This dastardly paradigm by people at the helm definitely merits critical review by the Legislature, the other "equal" branch of government. It's a non-sequitur!

I've taken cursory review of Bo Palacios' concerns. Obviously, it didn't spin out of a vacuum but loaded with substantive reasons why it's a bad law all around. In short, what's good for the goose is definitely also good for the gander.

This administration has used "due diligence" barking up the wrong tree with grand convenience for its "we few" cherry-picked investors at the expense of others who have established and gone it alone without government assistance since 60 years ago. Today, they collectively employ between 700-1,000 local workers. They have also done exceedingly well helping the local community where it counts the most.

Who is this administration's "Who's Who" in its "Cherry Pick List" where huge tax breaks under the QC law has been or would be granted? What have they done for the Northern Marianas community of real economic substance to merit another huge tax breaks? If this administration could do "due diligence" to help its cherry-picked business friends, why can't it subsidize Arctic Circle Air, working the clock to ferry basic commodities to Rota? Is it because Tony Pellegrino has fallen out of the graces of Smiling Smurf? But then is it responsible to scrap fiduciary duty when your "no-growth" policy has placed our people on Rota and Tinian in subterranean economic misery?

Too, if this administration could subsidize the filthy rich via tax breaks, how about subsidizing the hardworking sector (other businesses) and the multitude with their CUC utility bills? Why beat down on your already downtrodden people whose misery you've exacerbated because of your failed "growth" policies? Obviously you've celebrated your ascent to the top but never ever mindful how you got there, sir. Humiliating!

The QC law was intended to spur investors, therefore, revenue generation. But take another look to see if the unintended consequence is one of exacting the complete opposite. Nearly all states have repealed it. It's apparent it has become a highly punitive law against investment. It's shortsighted and I'm sure CDA would make appropriate recommendations to either strengthen or repeal it altogether.

It needs to see what positive effects it has had on businesses accorded such huge tax breaks, i.e., was there a trickle effect of savings into the local economy or did it translate into a simple business loot? Unless we address this and other collateral policy issues with a sense of maturity and humility, encouraging major investments would be protracted, if not annihilated!

Nepotism, connection and ethnicity

For six long years, the civil service system was out of commission, riddled with excuses on its timely organization. The merit system was placed on hold while giving the big political wheels the grand license to trash meritocracy in favor of tyranny. It's basically an assault on the civil service system in helter-skelter fashion.

In the process, civil servants were left to fend for themselves as they quiz how much longer would the system be left in paralysis that essentially compromises their future. The reason I had to go to bat for civil servants is simple: each has worked his buns off to get from point A to B, earning every iota of training to sharpen his skills that helps in the diligent delivery of public services.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Regarding Mr. Kani's 'priorities'

I must take umbrage at Mr. Kani's interpretation of priorities! His letter indicates he may be just another of Fitial's poor misguided minions seeking to once again trot out yet more excuses for abominable leadership.

The "governor" is the titular leader of the Commonwealth. As such it is up to him to seek out and implement programs and policies that best suit the welfare of all citizens—so far a massive failure resulting from one fraudulent or illegal action after another. And the people suffer mightily because of it.

The Legislature has its priorities correct and here is why: Let's say your child, while in the second grade in school, sustains an injury to their leg and the resulting infection will kill the child if not treated. However, if the child is taken out of school for a few weeks for treatment, he may "get behind" in his lessons and have to repeat the grade.

Do you allow him to remain in school until the festering leg renders its final decision and kills him so he won't "get behind"? Or do you take him out of school temporarily, cure the leg and then repeat

'Percentacitis'

Many bureaucrats in the CNMI government often fall victim to what is known in statistics as "percentacitis" disease. A layperson being told about a debt service coverage ratio of 335 percent for the airport and 135 percent for the seaport would have no meaningful and useful understanding about them at all. To some with financial literacy, the ratio being heralded by CPA is as usual as grated coconut in a *kadon katni yan niyuk* dish. Why are all the basic data absent? If a layperson is to make sense of the ratio, where are all the important financial information? If I know exactly what the actual net operating income and the total debt service, I would have a much clearer perspective and an absolute understanding of what is being said. In its current form as reported, what CPA is saying is that for every dollar of debt it pays for, it has a positive cash flow of \$3.35. The ratio is also the same as saying that for each 50 cents of debt, the entity has \$1.675 positive cash flow to cover all the debt service. But then again, you could use any point of reference and still satisfy the alleged ratio being said by these officials.

What is wrong if CPA reports exactly what the actual data are and let those that have an interest reading them to ascertain what they are reporting as their actual performance measure? Is there some data information in the equation that is "taboo" that would say otherwise? Hence, it is important that CPA provides all the data for the last five

the grade with regained health?

I think the answer is clear if you value your child. In this case, the "child" is the CNMI, the "parent" is the governor, the Legislature is the "doctor." We must cure the infection (the governor) before we can begin the process of attacking the myriad of problems you cited (repeating the grade), Mr. Kani.

Yes, the problems are quite real, but they have only been made much worse by the festering wound we call the "governor's office." That fester must be cured before real leadership can begin the process of healing the injuries caused by years of neglect and corruption. The Legislature simply cannot fix the problems of the CNMI when it must try to operate with a festering, painful wound at its side. And, yes, the people did issue a mandate in the last election to fix that fester and then get on with the business of "fixing" everything else. In case you missed it, that is what the campaign was all about.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
Winter Haven, FL

years on their debt coverage ratio to really demonstrate what stability they have sustained in regards to all the debt and lease payments over these years. While putting these data together, it is important that we know exactly the following: annual net operating income, interest expense, amortization and depreciation, and other discretionary and non-cash items that they reported in their balance sheet and income statements. Since the ratio depends on the denominator, it is important that CPA reports exactly what the principal payments of debts, including all lease payments to that effect. Because depreciation and amortization are non-cash payments these would be of significant interest for those with deep curiosity on these issues.

What makes this debt coverage ratio report stick with a curious layperson in the CNMI is the fact that the restrooms below the Executive Offices of the airport are in bad shape and appear to be disregarded. But we are being told by way of ratio that things are in order still. If there is stability in CPA, the restrooms would be the least of their worries. If all these big and little things are said in simple and clear manner, we won't have the urged to go back to CPA for clarification after all.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



You don't find this discipline in political hires that begin day one on the job feeling that sense of entitlement he never earned in the first place. It's a pitiful disgrace and lowering of standard of qualifications or merit system where we fail this employee by not providing an organized training so he learns a skill beyond his ethnicity, industry setting canopies and moving picnic tables. In fact, his employment span is fenced-in by one's term of office. It's a grand scaffold to create and generate more incompetent employees in perpetuity.

A credible desk audit would instantly reveal how the combined method of hiring—nepotism, connection and ethnicity that is basically race-based—is given greater prominence over merit of credentials and experience of applicants. I've seen it, walked it, and worked it in recent past. Get it right, people! Restore the merit system forthwith!

Office as biz boon and boom

Mayoral offices have become the other seabed of corruption that requires critical ocular review by the Office of the Public Auditor sooner than later. The wrongful use of the color of the office is found on two fronts:

Denying opportunities to others done by silently funneling them to the mayor's family-owned business operations.

Turning the office into a boom center for the politically connected with hefty salaries while the rest of the community sinks in misery.

This must come to an end immediately. The mayor either decides to fulfill the color of his office as an elected public official exercising what's good and fair for everyone. Otherwise, resign and stick to his business operations.

The politically connected jobs must be given ocular review via a desk audit to determine qualifications if in fact they are commensurate with salaries. Otherwise, turn them into civil service jobs. Let the merit system bring them to a brighter and more stable future.

COMING

From Page 10

ing past a barbed-wire fence. That widely aired footage left the misimpression children in the camp had worn such uniforms. In fact, striped uniforms were for the slave laborers who worked outside the camp in brigades known as Aussenkomandos. (Upon arrival at Auschwitz, most female prisoners, including Rena, Frieda and their mothers, received dresses taken from murdered prisoners.)

Liberation did not instantly free my mother to regain her humanity. It returned gradually. At a displaced persons camp, among a community of survivors, she filled in gaps in her education and played with friends, free from fear that her laughter and cheer could get her killed. Upon arrival in the United States, she found the love of a larger family, which embraced her and assisted in her adjustment to a new country. She learned to live by living life again, eventually starting a career and a family.

To be sure, the effect of Auschwitz on a survivor never disappears; it merely recedes. But celebrating one's liberation as a birthday has been an effective way for these miracle children—now among the last remaining Holocaust survivors—to reaffirm life and move beyond trauma.

Rena and Frieda's group of Auschwitz survivors no longer gathers each year to celebrate the anniversary of their rescue. Age, illness and physical distance make that impossible. And before long, even the youngest of them will be gone.

Their "birthday," though, must be remembered.

In declaring Jan. 27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the United Nations General Assembly urged its member states "to develop educational programs that will inculcate future generations with the lessons of the Holocaust in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide."

Remembering—and educating others about the importance of remembrance—is the best possible tribute to the victims and survivors, the best tool we have to give power to our cry, "Never again!"

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

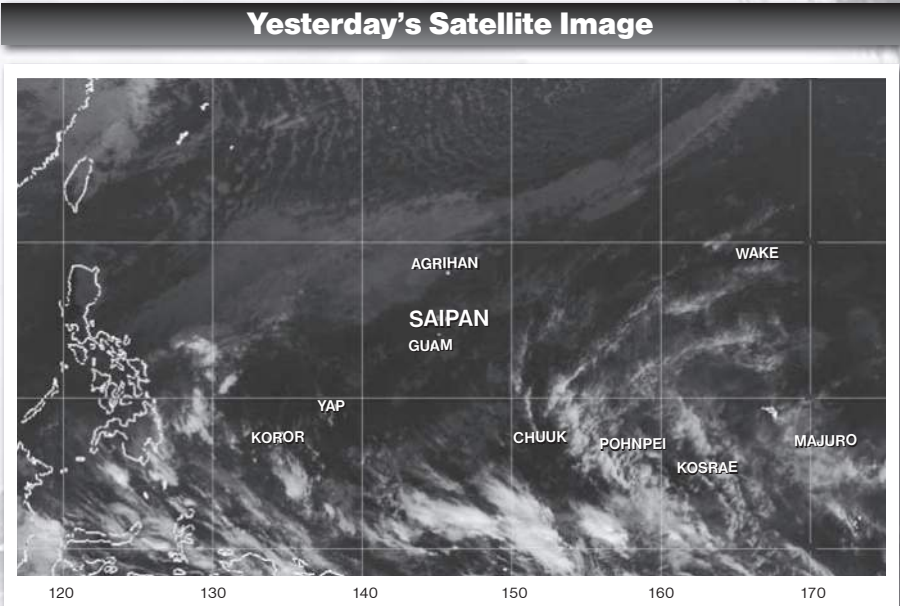
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East to northeast winds 10 to 20 mph. | Partly sunny and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph. | Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. | Mostly sunny and breezy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲84° ▼75° | ▲83° ▼75° | ▲83° ▼75° | ▲84° ▼75° | ▲85° ▼75° |

| Micronesia | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------|
| Guam and Rota | Partly Cloudy | ▲83 ▼75 |
| Palau | Partly Cloudy | ▲85 ▼78 |
| Yap | Sunny | ▲88 ▼78 |
| Chuuk | Cloudy | ▲85 ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲84 ▼80 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲84 ▼80 |
| Majuro | Cloudy | ▲86 ▼80 |

| Around The Globe | | |
|------------------|---------------|---------|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | ▲76 ▼64 |
| Beijing | Partly Cloudy | ▲38 ▼25 |
| Hong Kong | Sunny | ▲71 ▼64 |
| Honolulu | Showers | ▲78 ▼67 |
| London | Showers | ▲53 ▼42 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲62 ▼45 |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | ▲83 ▼74 |
| Melbourne | Sunny | ▲82 ▼58 |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | ▲80 ▼68 |
| New York | Partly Cloudy | ▲44 ▼40 |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | ▲51 ▼36 |
| Paris | Rain | ▲54 ▼42 |
| Pusan | Mostly Sunny | ▲51 ▼43 |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny | ▲60 ▼46 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲45 ▼41 |
| San Francisco | Sunny | ▲59 ▼45 |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | ▲44 ▼34 |
| Tokyo | Sunny | ▲53 ▼33 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲57 ▼47 |

| Tides | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------|----------|
| Saipan Harbor | | | |
| 3:34 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.0 Feet |
| 10:04 AM | Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 4:12 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.8 Feet |
| 9:28 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A frontal boundary runs southwestward from east of Minami Tori Shima at 25N160E across the far northern Mariana Islands at 20N145E to beyond 130E at 14N. Extensive cloudiness and scattered showers are found along and up to 420 miles northwest of this boundary. Trade-wind convergence south of this boundary is creating an increase in cloud cover and light isolated showers from 14N130E to 17N146E and then up into the boundary at 21N146E. A weakening shear line with mostly patchy clouds and a few showers remains from south of Wake Island near 18N167E to south of the Marianas near 9N150E and ending near 6N140E. A near-equatorial trough stretches southeastward from 4N135E south of Koror to 2N145E and ends south of Kosrae near the equator at 164E. Patches of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within the trough primarily from the equator to 3N between 135E to 162E. A trade-wind surge in the ITCZ is generating scattered showers primarily south and east of the Marshall Islands between 4N and 6N from 169E to east of 180E.

| Sunrise/Sunset | | | Moonrise/Moonset | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|------------------|----------|----------|
| Today | 6:47 AM | 6:14 PM | Today | 10:51 PM | 8:30 AM |
| Thursday | 6:46 AM | 6:15 PM | Thursday | 9:43 PM | 9:11 AM |
| Friday | 6:46 AM | 6:15 PM | Friday | 10:37 PM | 9:53 AM |
| Saturday | 6:46 AM | 6:16 PM | Saturday | 11:33 PM | 10:38 AM |
| Sunday | 6:46 AM | 6:16 PM | Sunday | | 11:25 AM |

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ **CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

| FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JAN. 7, 2013 | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| DEPARTURES | | | ARRIVALS | | |
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | |
| UA5070 | 4:35am 5:25am | 2, 4, 6, 7 | UA 5069 | 2:45am 3:35am | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5062 | 4:40am 5:30am | 1, 3, 5 | UA5071 | 7:05am 7:55am | Daily |
| UA5068 | 8:25am 9:15am | Daily | UA5073 | 9:50am 10:40am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5074 | 11:10am 12:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | UA5075 | 1:45pm 2:35pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5076 | 3:10pm 4:00pm | Daily | UA5077 | 5:35pm 6:25pm | Daily |
| UA5078 | 6:55pm 7:45pm | Daily | UA5079 | 8:20pm 9:10pm | Daily |
| UA5072 | 9:45pm 10:35pm | Daily | | | |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | |
| DL287 | 6:00am 8:40am | Daily | DL298 | 10:25am 3:00pm | Daily |
| DL285 | 6:35am 9:15am | 1, 3, 5, 7 | DL286 | 7:40pm 12:15am+1 | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| DL297 | 4:25pm 7:20pm | Daily | DL288 | 8:40pm 1:15am+1 | Daily |
| SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) | | | OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN | | |
| OZ119 | 4:00am 6:40am | Daily | OZ120 | 9:50pm 2:20am+1 | Daily |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | |
| OZ608 | 3:10am 6:20am | 4, 6, 7 | OZ607 | 9:00pm 1:50am+1 | 3, 5, 6 |
| OZ608 | 3:30am 6:40am | 3 | OZ607 | 9:35pm 2:25am+1 | 2 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | |
| OZ606 | 2:10am 6:00am | 1 | OZ603 | 9:00am 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ606 | 2:40am 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | OZ120 | 7:10pm 2:20am+1 | Daily via KIX |
| OZ119 | 4:00am 11:20am | Daily via KIX | OZ605 | 7:40pm 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ604 | 3:20pm 7:10pm | Daily | OZ605 | 8:10pm 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | |
| 3U8648 | 6:10am 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | 3U8647 | 10:40pm 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN | | |
| MU7108 | 3:50am 7:00am | 1, 5 | MU7107 | 7:40pm 2:55am+1 | 4, 7 |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) | | | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN | | |
| 3U8646 | 4:20am 7:30am | 2, 6 | 3U8645 | 7:40pm 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO) | | | VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN | | |
| XF1734 | 6:30am 12:30pm | 5 | XF1733 | 8:00pm 12:05am+1 | 4 |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | |
| OZ606/701 | 2:10am 11:15am | 1 | OZ704/603 | 12:10am 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ606/701 | 2:40am 11:15am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | DL172/288 | 8:05am 1:15am+1 | Daily via NRT |
| UA5070/191 | 4:35am 10:00am | 6 via GUM | UA190/5077 | 10:55am 6:25pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA5070/191 | 4:40am 10:00am | 3 | UA190/5079 | 10:55am 9:10pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| DL287/173 | 6:00am 10:25pm | Daily via NRT | OZ702/605 | 12:30pm 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA5076/183 | 3:10pm 9:30pm | 2, 5 via GUM | OZ702/605 | 12:30pm 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA5076/183 | 3:10pm 9:50pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM | PR110/UA5071 | 10:10pm 8:00am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ604/703 | 3:20pm 11:00pm | Daily via ICN | UA184/5071 | 10:55pm 7:55am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| UA5072/PR111 | 9:55pm 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM | UA184/5071 | 11:59pm 7:55am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) | | | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN | | |
| OZ606/721 | 2:10am 11:50am | 1 via ICN | OZ746/603 | 12:30am 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:40am 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ722/605 | 1:15pm 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA5076/147 | 3:10pm 10:30pm | 1, 5 via GUM | OZ722/605 | 1:15pm 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ604/749 | 3:20pm 11:00pm | Daily via ICN | UA180/5071 | 11:25pm 10:40am+1 | 1 via GUM |
| | | | UA180/5077 | 11:25pm 6:25pm+1 | 5 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-----------|----------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily | FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily | FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | | | | |
| FRE 17:50 | 18:20 | Daily | | | | | |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | Tinian-Saipan | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily | FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| FRE 10:20 | 10:45 | Daily | | FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily | FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily | FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| Saipan-Tinian | | | | FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily | FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily | FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily | FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily | FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily | | | | |

Business

Toyota is No. 1 again in 2012

TOKYO (AP)—It's official: Toyota is once again the world's top automaker.

Toyota Motor Corp. released its tally for global vehicle sales for last year Monday at a record 9.748 million vehicles—more than last month's estimate of about 9.7 million vehicles.

It was already clear Toyota had dethroned General Motors

Co. as the Detroit-based automaker fell short, selling 9.29 million vehicles.

GM had been the top-selling automaker for more than seven decades before losing the title to Toyota in 2008.

GM retook the sales crown in 2011, when Toyota's production was hurt by the quake and tsunami in northeastern Japan.

The latest results show Toyota's powerful comeback.

Global vehicle sales for the maker of the Camry sedan, Prius hybrid and Lexus luxury model surged nearly 23 percent from the previous year. Overseas sales jumped 19 percent, while sales in Japan, where the economy has been troubled, recovered a whopping 35 percent.

FHB posts 3.8 percent earnings hike

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—First Hawaiian Bank reported yesterday net income of \$53.1 million for the fourth quarter 2012, a 3.1-percent gain over the comparable period of 2011.

For the year, the bank's loan and lease portfolio reached

» Loan and lease portfolio reaches a record \$9 billion

a record \$9 billion, while First Hawaiian's net income was \$216.9 million, an increase of 3.8 percent over 2011. The announcement was made by Bob Harrison, First Hawaiian Bank president and CEO.

"We had a solid fourth quarter and finished the year with strong loan and deposit growth," said Harrison. "Despite a competitive marketplace, we were able to grow our loan volume throughout 2012, making more than \$3.6 billion in total loans. With tourism clearly rebounding and construction projects beginning in the market, we are optimistic that we will continue to see steady economic growth in 2013."

For the 12 months ended Dec. 31, 2012, First Hawaiian Bank achieved the following over the

prior year:

■ Total assets reached \$16.6 billion, up 5.1 percent.

■ Total deposits were \$12.9 billion, an increase of 6.0 percent.

■ Total loans and leases were \$9.0 billion up 7.5 percent.

■ Non-performing assets to total assets

remained one of the lowest in the banking industry at 0.25 percent.

■ Efficiency ratio was 44.31 percent, making First Hawaiian the most productive bank in Hawaii and one of the most efficient in the nation.

In the fourth quarter of 2012, First Hawaiian noted several accomplishments and milestones:

■ First Hawaiian Bank was the first local bank to offer CD account openings online through FHB Direct, an efficient and secure Internet account opening service.

■ The bank celebrated its 15-year anniversary in the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands.

■ In 2012, First Hawaiian was once again one of Hawaii's

largest contributors to charity. Through its employee campaign and Foundation, the bank donated over \$2.5 million to 400 charities in Hawaii, Guam, and Saipan, bringing its total community donation to \$7.5 million over the past three years.

■ The First Hawaiian Bank quarterly Business Activity Report showed Hawaii credit and debit card sales transactions up 9.83 percent for all of 2012.

Statewide credit and debit card transactions were strong in fourth quarter 2012, posting an 11.31-percent gain for same store sales the year prior. This was the largest quarterly and annual increase in three years. It also was the first time all 16 sectors posted positive gains. The Guam BAR showed transactions up by 10.12 percent in the fourth quarter 2012 over prior year with all but one sector posting growth.

First Hawaiian Bank (www.fhb.com) with \$16.6 billion in total assets was founded in 1858 and is Hawaii's oldest and largest bank. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas, a leading global financial services institution. (FHB)

United reports \$589M profit in 2012

United Continental Holdings, Inc. reported full-year 2012 net income of \$589 million, or \$1.59 per diluted share, excluding \$1.3 billion of special

charges. Including special charges, UAL reported a full-year 2012 net loss of \$723 million, or \$2.18 per share. UAL re-

» \$723M loss including special charges

ported a fourth-quarter 2012 net loss of \$190 million, or \$0.58 per share, excluding \$430 million of special charges. Including special charges, UAL reported a fourth-quarter 2012 net loss of \$620 million, or \$1.87 per share.

UAL ended 2012 with \$7.0 billion in unrestricted liquidity.

Co-workers earned \$119 million in profit sharing for full-year 2012, which will be distributed on Feb. 14, 2013.

"I want to thank my co-workers for working together in 2012 as we completed the most difficult aspects of our merger integration," said Jeff Smisek, UAL's chairman, president and

chief executive officer. "With much of our integration behind us, our significantly improved operational performance and our increasing customer satisfaction, we can now go forward as one company. This year we will continue on our path to becoming the world's leading airline."

Q4 revenue

For the fourth quarter of 2012, total revenue was \$8.7 billion, a decrease of 2.5 percent year-over-year. Fourth-quarter consolidated passenger revenue decreased 3.6 percent to \$7.5 billion, compared to the same period in 2011.

"While we didn't meet our revenue goals in 2012, we have addressed the integration issues that drove our underperformance," said Jim Compton, UAL's vice chairman and chief revenue officer. "We're now positioned to capitalize on market opportunities across our network, and to earn back

our share of revenue, based on solid operations and great customer service."

Year-over-year cargo and other revenue in the fourth quarter of 2012 increased 5.0 percent, or \$56 million, to \$1.2 billion.

2012 events

For the fourth quarter, United recorded a U.S. Department of Transportation domestic on-time arrival rate of 80.1 percent, exceeding its goal for the quarter.

The company took delivery of six Boeing 787-8 Dreamliners in 2012 and launched its first commercial 787 flight in early November. United also took delivery of 19 Boeing 737-900ERs, and removed from service 19 Boeing 737-500s, one Boeing 757-200 and three Boeing 767-200s.

The company began installing global satellite-based Wi-Fi on its mainline fleet and expects to have more than 300 aircraft equipped with Wi-Fi by the end of 2013. (United)

Nation

Immigration overhaul? GOP and Democratic senators vow action

WASHINGTON (AP)—Side by side, leading Democratic and Republican senators pledged Monday to propel far-reaching immigration legislation through the Senate by summer providing a possible path to citizenship for an estimated 11 million people now in the U.S. illegally.

The senators acknowledged pitfalls that have doomed such efforts in the past, but they suggested that November's elections—with Hispanics voting heavily for President Barack Obama and other Democrats—could make this time different.

Passage of the emotionally charged legislation by the Democratic-controlled Senate is far from assured, and a taller hurdle could come later in the House, which is dominated by conservative Republicans who've shown little interest in immigration overhaul. Obama will lay out his own proposals Tuesday, most of which mirror the Senate plans.

Besides the citizenship provision, including new qualifications, the Senate measure would increase border security, allow more temporary workers to stay and crack down on employers who would hire illegal immigrants. The plans are still short on detail, and all the senators conceded that months of tedious

Immigration reform plan

A bipartisan group of U.S. senators has unveiled the outline of a plan to overhaul U.S. immigration laws, including a path to citizenship for the 11 million illegal immigrants already here.

Key points to the deal

• **Path to citizenship** Illegal immigrants would register with government, pass background check, pay fine and back taxes to get "probationary legal status;" illegals would wait in line behind those pursuing legal routes; must learn English, show U.S. work history to get legal permanent residency, or green card

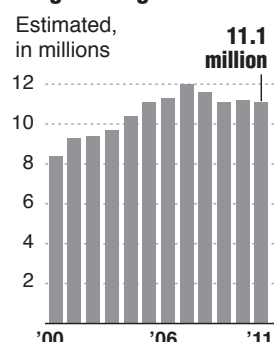
• **Border security** More unmanned aerial vehicles, other surveillance equipment, more border agents; entry-exit system to track people in U.S. on temporary visas; commission to monitor progress of securing border

• **Young illegal immigrants** President Barack Obama gave interim reprieve to youth brought to U.S. by parents; no specifics on how youth or farm workers would be treated by plan

• **High-tech workers** Would expand the number of visas, make green cards available for those who earn U.S. graduate degrees in certain fields

• **Employment verification** System to ensure that employers don't hire illegal immigrants; would require prospective workers to verify legal status and identity through non-forgeable federal electronic system

Illegal immigrants in U.S.



Source: U.S. Senate, Reuters, AP

Illegal immigrant workers

There were 8 million illegal immigrants in the U.S. labor force in 2010; states with the largest share



Graphic: Judy Treible

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and politically treacherous negotiations lie ahead.

But with a re-elected Obama pledging his commitment, the lawmakers argued that six years

after the last sustained congressional effort at an immigration overhaul came up short in the Senate, chances for approval this year are much better.

Scouts considering retreat from no-gays policy

NEW YORK (AP)—The Boy Scouts of America may soon give sponsors of troops the authority to decide whether to accept gays as scouts and leaders—a potentially dramatic retreat from an exclusionary nationwide policy that has provoked relentless protests.

Under the change now being discussed, the different religious and civic groups that sponsor Scout units would be able to decide for themselves how to address the issue—either maintaining an exclusion of gays, as is now required of all units, or opening up their membership.

Gay-rights activists were elated at the prospect of change, sensing another milestone to go along with recent advances for same-sex marriage and the end of the ban on gays serving openly in the military.

However, Southern Baptist leaders—who consider homosexuality a sin—were furious about the possible change and said its approval might encourage Southern Baptist churches to support other boys' organizations instead of the BSA.

Monday's announcement of the possible change comes after years of protests over

the no-gays policy—including petition campaigns that have prompted some corporations to suspend donations to the Boy Scouts.

Under the proposed change, said BSA spokesman Deron Smith, "the Boy Scouts would not, under any circumstances, dictate a position to units, members, or parents."

Smith said the change could be announced as early as next week, after BSA's national board concludes a regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 6. The meeting will be closed to the public.

Newtown parents urge enforcement of gun laws

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Parents of children killed in the Newtown school shooting called for better enforcement of gun laws and tougher penalties for violators Monday at a hearing that revealed the divide in the gun-control debate, with advocates for gun rights shouting at the father of one 6-year-old victim.

Neil Heslin, whose son Jesse was killed in last month's massacre at Sandy Hook El-

ementary, asked people in the room to put themselves in his position as he questioned the need for any civilian to own semiautomatic, military-style weapons.

"It's not a good feeling. Not a good feeling to look at your child laying in a casket or looking at your child with a bullet wound to the forehead. It's a real sad thing," said Heslin, who held up a large framed photograph of

himself and his son.

A handful of people at the packed legislative hearing then shouted about their Second Amendment rights when Heslin asked if anyone could provide a reason for a civilian to own an assault-style weapon.

"We're all entitled to our own opinions and I respect their opinions and their thoughts," Heslin said. "But I wish they'd respect mine and give it a little bit of thought."



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MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Asia

Marcos victims to be compensated

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Almost four decades after he was arrested and tortured and his sister disappeared into a maze of Philippine police cells and military houses, playwright Bonifacio Ilagan is finally seeing his suffering officially recognized.

A writer for an underground communist newspaper, Ilagan and thousands like him were rounded up by dictator Ferdinand Marcos' security forces after he placed the Philippines under martial law in 1972. Detentions, beatings, harassment and killings of the regime's opponents continued until Marcos was toppled in 1986.

Even though democracy was restored, it would take another 27 years for the Philippine Congress to vote on a bill awarding compensation and recognition to martial law victims. The bill was ratified Monday and will be sent to Pres. Benigno Aquino III for signing into law, said Sen. Francis Escudero, a key proponent.

"More than the monetary compensation, the bill represents the only formal, written document that martial law violated the human rights of Filipinos and that there were courageous people who fought the dictatorship," said a statement from SELDA, an organization of former political prisoners that campaigned for the passage of the bill.

Ilagan's story is more of a rule than exception among leftist activists of his generation.

"The torture started in the house. We were beaten up, punched and kicked," he said, recalling a police raid on his residence in April 1974 and the beginning of his two-year detention ordeal. He said he vomited blood after being kicked in the thighs and had the soles of his foot burned by an iron.

"The one episode in my torture that I cannot forget was when they ordered me to remove my pants and underwear and they inserted a piece of stick into my penis. 'Oh my God,' I said, this is one torture I could not bear," the 61-year-old said in an interview. He said that interrogators wanted him to decode documents and identify people in pictures that were seized from suspected communist activists.

"Compared to others, mine was not the worst torture," he said. "The others were electrocuted and injected with truth serum. ... But the threats continued."

Ilagan's sister, Rizalina, disappeared in 1976 along with nine other activists, many of them students involved in anti-Marcos publications, he said. One of the women arrested by the same government unit that he suspected was involved in his sister's abduction had escaped to recount her rape and torture. Ilagan said he has no doubt that his sister went through the same abuses.

His parents died still hoping his sister would turn up alive, but the family has found no clo-

sure, Ilagan said.

Lawmakers in two chambers of the Congress agreed last week on the text of the compensation bill.

Aquino is the son of an assassinated anti-Marcos activist and a mother who led the 1986 "people power" revolt that ousted Marcos and sent him into U.S. exile, where he died three years later without ever facing prosecution for human rights abuses.

Many of Marcos' men reinvented themselves as powerful politicians or businessmen, and not one was successfully prosecuted for any of the crimes allegedly committed during the martial law years.

Two martial law figures, former Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile and the deputy military chief of staff, Fidel Ramos, led a mutiny against Marcos as part of the 1986 revolt. Ramos later served as president from 1992 to 1998, and Enrile is currently the president of the Senate.

Despite cases filed by former political prisoners, "there have been no convictions of perpetrators," Marie Hilao-Enriquez, chairwoman of SELDA, said Monday.

The Marcos family, meanwhile, returned from exile in 1990s and again wields influence. Former first lady Imelda Marcos is a lawmaker, son Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos is a senator, and daughter Imee is a provincial governor.

plucked 1,000 people to safety after the river that runs through town broke its banks, sending fast-moving, muddy water pouring into streets and homes.

Filipino activist convicted of offending Catholics

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A popular Filipino tour guide and activist has been convicted of disrupting a religious service in the Manila Cathedral to protest the opposition of the Roman Catholic Church to state funding for contraceptives. Metropolitan Manila Trial Court found Carlos Celdran guilty Monday on the criminal charge of offending religious feelings. The charge is seldom used in the predominantly Catholic country. Celdran barged into the cathedral in 2010 and lambasted the clergy for campaigning against the Reproductive Health Bill, which Congress passed into law last month. Celdran is facing a prison sentence of between two months and one year.

Pollution off the index again in China's capital

BEIJING (AP)—Beijing's pollution has reached especially high levels again as smog blankets much of China's central and eastern areas. After days of

worsening visibility on the capital's streets, the U.S. Embassy reported early Tuesday morning that the level of pollution was "beyond index." Since Saturday, it has reported hourly pollution levels as hazardous to human health. The Beijing Municipal Environmental Monitoring Center says pollution across Beijing is severe and expected to persist because there is little wind to disperse pollutants. It advises city residents to stay indoors as much as possible.

Suu Kyi to meet South Korea's first female leader

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Aung San Suu Kyi, the opposition leader whose 2010 release from house arrest signaled the beginning of Myanmar's transition from decades of military rule, is scheduled to meet Tuesday in Seoul with Park Geun-hye, who takes office next month as South Korea's first female president. The meeting between two of the most prominent women in Asia spotlights a tragic coincidence in their family history: Suu Kyi's father, Gen. Aung San, was killed by assassins in 1947 while Park's, President Park Chung-hee, was assassinated by his intelligence chief in 1979.

World

No alarm, only 1 exit in Brazil fire

SANTA MARIA, Brazil (AP)—

The nightclub Kiss was hot, steamy from the press of beer-fueled bodies dancing close. The Brazilian country band on stage was whipping the young crowd into a frenzy, launching into another fast-paced, accordion-driven tune and lighting flares that spewed silver sparks into the air.

It was another Saturday night in Santa Maria, a university town of about 260,000 on Brazil's southernmost tip. Then, in the pre-dawn hours of Sunday, it turned into a scene of indescribable horror as sparks lit a fire in the soundproofing material above the stage, churning out black, toxic smoke as flames raced through the former beer warehouse, killing 231 people.

"I was right there, so even though I was far from the door, at least I realized something was wrong," said Rodrigo Rizzi, a first-year nursing student who was next to the stage when the fire broke out and watched the tragedy unfold, horror-stricken and helpless.



"Others, who couldn't see the stage, never had a chance. They never saw it coming."

There was no fire alarm, no sprinklers, no fire escape. In violation of state safety codes, fire extinguishers were not spaced every 1,500 square feet, and there was only one exit. As the city buried its young Monday, questions were raised about whether Brazil is up to the task of ensuring the safety in venues for the World Cup next year, and the Olympics in 2016. Four people were arrested for questioning, including two band members and

the nightclub's co-owner.

Rizzi hadn't even planned on going out that night. He was talked into it by friends and knew dozens at the club. He said the first sign of a problem was insulation dripping above the stage.

The flames at that point were barely noticeable, just tiny tongues lapping at the flammable material. The band's singer, Marcelo dos Santos, noticed it and tried to put out the smoldering embers by squirting water from a bottle.

The show kept going. Then, as the ceiling continued to ooze hot molten foam, dos Santos grabbed the drummer's water bottle and aimed it at the fire. That didn't work either, Rizzi said. A security guard handed the band leader a fire extinguisher. He aimed, but nothing came out; the extinguisher didn't work. At that point, Rizzi said, the singer motioned to the band to get out. Rizzi calmly made his way to the door—the club's only exit—still thinking it was a small fire that would quickly be controlled.

Iran says it successfully sent a monkey into space

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—A gray-tufted monkey strapped in a pod resembling an infant's car seat rode an Iranian rocket into space and returned safely, officials said Monday in what was described as a step toward Tehran's goal of a manned space flight.

The mission also touched on concerns that advances in Iran's rocket expertise could be channeled into military use for long-range weapons that might one day carry nuclear warheads. Iran says it does not seek atomic weapons.

Launching a live animal into space—as the U.S. and the Soviet Union did more than a half-century ago in the infancy of their programs—may boost a country's stature. But John Logsdon, a space policy professor emeritus at George Washington University, said Iran's achievement should draw no concern.

"A slight monkey on a subor-



In this undated image taken from AP Television, scientists in Iran surround a monkey ahead of a space launch.

bital flight is nothing to get too excited about," he said. "They already had the capability to launch warheads in their region."

U.S. State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said the U.S. had no way to confirm the monkey's voyage, but that it was concerned by

the reports because "any space launch vehicle capable of placing an object in orbit is directly relevant to the development of long-range ballistic missiles."

The U.N. Security Council has expressly forbidden Iran from such ballistic missile activity, Nuland added.

Mali military enters fabled town of Timbuktu

SEVARE, Mali (AP)—Backed by French helicopters and paratroopers, Malian soldiers entered the fabled city of Timbuktu on Monday after al-Qaida-linked militants who ruled the outpost by fear for nearly 10 months fled into the desert, setting fire to a library that held thousands of manuscripts dating to the Middle Ages.

French Col. Thierry Burkhard, chief military spokesman in Paris, said that there had been no combat with the Islamists but that the French and Malian forces did not yet control the town.

Still, there was celebration among the thousands of Timbuktu residents who fled

the city rather than live under strict and pitiless Islamic rule and the dire poverty that worsened after the tourist industry was destroyed. "In the heart of people from northern Mali, it's a relief—freedom finally," said Cheick Sormoye, a Timbuktu resident who fled to Bamako, the capital.

Timbuktu, a city of mud-walled buildings and 50,000 people, was for centuries a seat of Islamic learning and a major trading center along the North African caravan routes that carried slaves, gold and salt. In Europe, legend had it that it was a city of gold. Today, its name is syn-

onymous to many with the ends of the earth.

It has been home to some 20,000 irreplaceable manuscripts, some dating to the 12th century. It was not immediately known how many were destroyed in the blaze that was set in recent days in an act of vengeance by the Islamists before they withdrew.

Michael Covitt, chairman of the Malian Manuscript Foundation, called the arson a "desecration to humanity."

"These manuscripts are irreplaceable. They have the wisdom of the ages and it's the most important find since the Dead Sea Scrolls," he said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Blast in Pakistan mine kills 8 coal miners

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—A Pakistani mining official says a methane gas explosion in a private coal mine in the southwest has killed eight miners. Senior mining inspector Ifthikhar Ahmed said two miners were found unconscious after Monday's blast, in Duki village. He said two miners were still missing and rescue workers were trying to reach them. Ahmed said dozens of miners angered over the incident rallied there Monday, demanding action against the owner. He said the miners accused the owner of ignoring safety measures and that authorities have opened an investigation to determine what caused the blast.

Australian towns flooded, 4 people killed

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)—Thousands of Australians huddled in shelters Tuesday as torrential rains flooded cities and towns in the northeast, killing four people and prompting around 1,000 helicopter evacuations. With floodwaters expected to peak in most of the worst-hit areas later Tuesday, officials were rushing to move those in the highest-risk areas to safety. In the hard-hit city of Bundaberg, rescue crews

Campus Life

Teachers flip for 'flipped learning' class model



Noah Reyes, 11th grader, watches as teacher Crystal Kirch solves a problem in a pre-calculus class at Segerstrom High School in Santa Ana, Calif., Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013.

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—When Timmy Nguyen comes to his pre-calculus class, he's already learned the day's lesson—he watched it on a short online video prepared by his teacher for homework.

So without a lecture to listen to, he and his classmates at Segerstrom Fundamental High School spend class time doing practice problems in small groups, taking quizzes, explaining the concept to other students, reciting equation formulas in a loud chorus, and making their own videos while teacher Crystal Kirch buzzes from desk to desk to help pupils who are having trouble.

It's a technology-driven teaching method known as "flipped learning" because it flips the time-honored model of classroom lecture and exercises for homework—the lecture becomes homework and class time is for practice.

"It was hard to get used to," said Nguyen, an 11th-grader. "I was like 'why do I have to watch these videos, this is so dumb.' But then I stopped complaining and I learned the material quicker. My grade went from a D to an A."

Flipped learning apparently is catching on in schools across the nation as a younger, more tech-savvy generation of teachers is moving into classrooms. Although the number of "flipped" teachers is hard to ascertain, the online community Flipped Learning Network now has 10,000 members, up from 2,500 a year ago, and training workshops are being held all over the country, said executive director Kari Afstrom.

Under the model, teachers make eight- to 10-minute videos of their lessons using laptops, often simply filming the whiteboard as the teacher makes notations and recording their voice as they explain the concept. The videos are uploaded onto a teacher or school website, or even YouTube, where they can be accessed by students on computers or smartphones as homework.

For pupils lacking easy access to the Internet, teachers copy videos onto DVDs or flash drives. Kids with no home device watch the video on school computers.

Class time is then devoted to practical applications of the lesson—often more creative exercises designed to engage students and deepen their understanding. On a recent afternoon, Kirch's students stood in pairs with one student forming a cone shape with her hands and the other angling an arm so the "cone" was cut into different sections.

"It's a huge transformation," said Kirch, who has been taking this approach for two years. "It's a student-focused classroom where the responsibility for learning has flipped from me to the students."

The concept emerged five years ago when a pair of Colorado high school teachers started videotaping their chemistry classes for absent students.

"We found it was really valuable and pushed us to ask what the students needed us for," said one of the teachers, Aaron Sams, now a consultant who is developing an online education program in Pittsburgh. "They didn't need us for content dissemination, they needed us to dig deeper."

He and colleague Jonathan Bergmann began condensing classroom lectures to short videos and assigning them as homework.

"The first year, I was able to double the number of labs my students were doing," Sams said. "That's every science teacher's dream."

In the Detroit suburb of Clinton Township, Clintondale High School Principal Greg Green converted the whole school to flipped learning in the fall of 2011 after years of frustration with high failure rates and discipline problems. Three-quarters of the school's enrollment of 600 is low-income, minority students. Flipping yielded dramatic results after just a year, including a 33 percent drop in the freshman failure rate and a 66

percent drop in the number of disciplinary incidents from the year before, Green said. Graduation, attendance and test scores all went up. Parent complaints dropped from 200 to seven.

Green attributed the improvements to an approach that engages students more in their classes.

"Kids want to take an active part in the learning process," he said. "Now teachers are actually working with kids."

Although the method has been more popular in high schools, it's now catching on in elementary schools, said Afstrom of the Flipped Learn-

ing Network.

Fifth-grade teacher Lisa Highfill in the Pleasanton Unified School District said for a lesson about adding decimals, she made a five-minute, how-to video kids watched at home and in class, then she distributed play money and menus and had kids "ordering" food and tallying the bill and change.

A colleague who teaches kindergarten reads a storybook on video. The video contains a pop-up box that requires kids to write something that shows they understood the story.

The concept has its down-

side. Teachers note that making the videos and coming up with project activities to fill class time is a lot of extra work up front, while some detractors believe it smacks of teachers abandoning their primary responsibility of instructing.

"They're expecting kids to do the learning outside the classroom. There's not a lot of evidence this works," said Leonie Haimson, executive director of Class Size Matters, a New York City-based parent advocacy group. "What works is reasonably sized classes with a lot of debate, interac-

tion and discussion."

Others question whether flipped learning would work as well with low achieving students, who may not be as motivated to watch lessons on their own, but said it was overall a positive model.

"It's forcing the notion of guided practice," said Cynthia Desrochers, director of the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching at California State University-Northridge. "Students can get the easy stuff on their own, but the hard stuff should be under the watchful eye of a teacher."

In Celebration of Her New Life

†Ana San Nicolas Camacho

Lovingly known as "Anan Pinchang"

August 15, 1947 – January 25, 2013

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Children:

Joseph SN. and Henie Cruz (Joewayne S. & Tammy Q. Cruz; Joyner S. Cruz; Jennilyn S. Cruz & Charlie B. Palacios)

Angelo SN. and Librada Cruz (Angelee D. Cruz; Leeann D. Cruz; Angelo D. Cruz, Jr., Lyn D. Cruz)

Vivian Cruz and Carlos Viches Rios (Frances Ann Cruz Natividad; Annivie SN. Cruz & Inas Acquiningoc; Charlie Bud SN. Cruz, Juan Carlos Cruz Viches Rios)

Brothers, Sisters, In-Laws:

Florentina Camacho Pablo; Juanita Atalig Aguon; Lourdes T. Camacho; Nan Chilang; Len Camacho; Joseph T. Camacho; Carlos T. Camacho; Benny Camacho

She will be greatly missed by her great grandchildren:

Arianna Rose Cruz; Carther Joe Cruz Palacios; Avery Grace Cruz; Ava Guerrero; Truman Goodnaugh

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:

Husband:

†Arthur Tedtaotao Camacho

†Jose Reyes Cruz

Mother: *†Laubina Atalig San Nicolas*

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws:

†Geronimo Atalig San Nicolas; †Francisco Atalig San Nicolas; †Teofila Masga Deleon Guerrero

Nightly rosary is being prayed at San Jose Church on Tinian at 8:00 pm. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, February 05, 2013. Her remains will be escorted from Tinian Health Center to San Jose Church, Tinian at 07:00 am. Responso Services will be at 7:30 am followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Interment services will follow at Tinian cemetery.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYERS

Children & Families

Life & Style

Dutch Queen Beatrix abdicating, son will be king

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—The Netherlands' Queen Beatrix announced Monday that she is ending her reign after 33 years and passing the crown to her eldest son, who has long been groomed to be king but who will have to work hard to match his mother's popularity. The widely expected abdication comes at a time of debate over the future of the largely ceremonial Dutch monarchy, but also as calm has descended upon the Netherlands after a decade of turmoil that saw Beatrix act as the glue that held together an increasingly divided society.

"Responsibility for our country must now lie in the hands of a new generation," Beatrix, one of Europe's longest-serving monarchs, said in the simple, televised speech announcing her abdication.

The queen, who turns 75 in just a few days, said she will step down from the throne on April 30. That same day, her eldest son, Willem-Alexander, will be appointed king at an inauguration in Amsterdam. He will be the Netherlands' first king since Willem III died in 1890.

Willem-Alexander is a 45-year-old father of three young daughters, an Interna-

tional Olympic Committee member, a pilot and a water management expert.

Over the years, he has struggled to win the affection of this nation of 16 million, but his immensely popular wife, the Argentine-born Maxima, has helped him gain more acceptance ever since she brushed away a tear during their wedding in 2002.

They are a hard-working couple: Willem-Alexander regularly gives speeches at water conferences, sharing his low-lying nation's centuries of experience battling to stay dry, while soon-to-be Queen Maxima, a former investment banker, has carved out a career as a microfinance expert.

Together, the pair has often been seen cheering on Dutch sportsmen and women at Olympics from Beijing, to Vancouver and London. "He's known as 'Mister Water,' isn't he? He seems like a reliable person, just like his mother," said Desiree Hoving, an Amsterdam resident. "I don't really have an emotional response to him, but I do think it's nice that Maxima is going to be queen."

Despite regular public appearances, Willem-Alexander is



Dutch Queen Beatrix poses for a photographer prior or shortly after announcing her April 30, 2013, abdication in a prerecorded speech in The Hague, Netherlands, Monday Jan. 28, 2013.

also fiercely private, giving reporters and photographers brief, choreographed glimpses of his family in return for being left in peace the rest of the time.

"He and Princess Maxima are fully prepared for their future roles," Beatrix said. "They will serve our nation with dedication, faithfully preserve the constitution and bring all their talents to the monarchy."

Despite her popularity, Maxima has always carried an air of controversy because her father was an agriculture minister in the military junta that ruled Argentina with an iron fist in the

late 1970s and early 1980s.

In a move that may curtail possible protests, the Royal House said that Maxima told Prime Minister Mark Rutte that her parents will not attend the inauguration.

In her brief, prerecorded speech from her Huis ten Bosch Palace in The Hague, Beatrix said she was, "deeply grateful for the great faith you have shown in me in the many years that I could be your queen."

The queen's departure is sure to bring about an outpouring of sentimental and patriotic feelings among the Dutch, most of

whom adore Beatrix. In everyday conversation, many of her subjects refer to her simply by the nickname "Bea."

Well-wishers immediately gathered outside the palace Monday.

One of them, Laura Dinkshof, took along a homemade orange banner. "We hope the queen will see it," she said. "It says we were very happy with our queen and we wish her a nice retirement and that we have trust in our new king."

Rutte, a staunch monarchist, said that ever since her coronation in 1980, Beatrix—the nation's oldest-ever monarch—"applied herself heart and soul for Dutch society."

Beatrix succeeded her mother, Juliana, as head of state, and her reign has been marked by tumultuous shifts in Dutch society and, more recently, by personal tragedy.

Observers believe Beatrix remained on the throne for so long in part because of unrest in Dutch society as the country struggled to assimilate more and more immigrants, mainly Muslims from North Africa, and shifted away from its traditional reputation as one of the world's most tolerant nations.

Beatrix was also thought to be giving time for her son to enjoy fatherhood before taking the throne.

The abdication also comes at a time of trial for Beatrix. A year ago, she was struck by personal tragedy when the second of her three sons, Prince Friso, was left in a coma after being engulfed by an avalanche while skiing in Austria. And even in a job that is mostly symbolic to begin with, the previous government stripped her of one of her few remaining powers: the ability to name a candidate to begin Cabinet formation after the election of the national parliament.

Beatrix's reign began in difficult economic times and there were riots in Amsterdam at her inauguration, as thousands of demonstrators protesting the city's housing shortages fought pitched battles with police just a few hundred meters (yards) from the downtown palace where she was crowned.

But throughout her tenure she was a calming influence on society, particularly in the aftermath of the 2002 assassination of populist politician Pim Fortuyn and the murder two years later of filmmaker Theo van Gogh by a Muslim extremist.

In Loving Memory of †Manuel Castro Villagomez

Born on December 14, 1948
and was called to eternal rest
on January 24, 2013

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father: †Vicente Seman Villagomez

Mother: †Rosalia Castro Villagomez

Sisters: †Anna Villagomez, †Maria Villagomez, †Virginia Kalp

His loving memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Dolores S. Villagomez

Children: Rick/Lillian, Reagan/Joan, Jeff/Jereesa, Jennifer/Marvin, Rosalyn, Manuel "JR"/Tracy

Grandchildren: Richie John, Maekaila, Kyle, Dazha, Ricardo, Syaie, Jevaughn, Kanicia, Ricco, Reagan Junior

Brothers and Sisters: Rita O' Haire, Frances Muna, Tona Winter, Connie Guerrero, Pedro Villagomez, Diana Villagomez, Vicente Villagomez, Joseph Villagomez, Raymond Villagomez, John Mendiola, Florence Mendiola

Daily mass is offered at San Vicente Church at 6:00pm, followed by the rosary.

His remains will arrive on Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 2:20pm and will be brought to Borja Funeral Home.

On Friday, February 1, 2013, at 7:30am, his remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to Mount Carmel Cathedral. Rosary will be offered at 8:00am, followed by the final viewing and last respect.

Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 11:00am, followed by the Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

The Family

In Celebration of Her New Life

Theodora Taman Palacios Camacho

Lovingly known as "Do"

Born on November 9, 1928
Was called to eternal life on January 27, 2013
at the age of 84

In her new life she now joins:

Father: Jose Fausto Palacios

Mother: Rita Taman Palacios

Brothers: Francisco T. Palacios & Nicolas T. Palacios

Grandchildren: Jose P. Aquino & Jared P. Quitugua

Great-grandchild: Maria Kiani H. Cepeda

She is survived by:

Spouse: Felipe SN Camacho

Children: Marylee (Juan E. Aquino) & children

Rebecca (Phil Farmer) & children

Margaret P. Camacho & son

Rita P. Camacho (Luis C. Cepeda) & children

Reina C. Quitugua (Joseph Quitugua)

Sisters-in-law: Maria I. Palacios & Rosario S. Palacios

Siblings: Estefania (Fancyn) P. & Bob Scruggs

Angel T. & Bennet Palacios

Thomasa (Bacha) P. & Milton J. Coleman, Sr.

"Nan Do" is additionally survived by: 13 Grandchildren, 29 Great-Grandchildren, 2 Great-Great-grandchildren, & numerous nieces and nephews.

Daily Mass is being offered at 6:00 p.m. at the San Vicente Church beginning on January 28, 2013

On Monday, February 4, 2013, her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Chapel to the Mount Carmel Cathedral at 8:00 a.m. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. immediately followed by interment service at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery.

Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay, & Thank you from The Family

Taylor Swift talks sexier look, new tour

NEW YORK (AP)—Taylor Swift has been turning heads with her new, sexy wardrobe, but the 23-year-old says it's just a reflection of getting older.

Swift has people buzzing about her recent red carpet choices, which have included plunging necklines and shorter skirts. "As far as wardrobe, we have been operating from a different place," Swift said.

While her choices may be demure compared with the Kim Kardashians of the world, for Swift, a former teen sweetheart, it's raised eyebrows, and she acknowledges that it's been a bit of a shock for some people who are accustomed to seeing her wear long dresses. She recalled how her decision to wear shorts at last year's MTV Video Music Awards caused a stir.

"It was like, 'Gasp, Taylor wears shorts.' And I thought it was hilarious," she said, adding: "I'm not going to be like taking my clothes off or that sort of thing."

Swift's new look is a reflection of her overall maturation, with her latest album, "Red," selling more than 3 million copies since it was released last fall and producing two smash singles, "I Knew You Were Trouble" and "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," which is nominated for record of the year at next month's Grammy Awards.

"I'm so happy about (my) three nominations—it's so un-



This Jan. 26, 2013 file photo shows American singer-songwriter Taylor Swift at the Cannes festival palace, to take part in the NRJ Music awards ceremony in Cannes, southeastern France.

real," Swift said in a phone interview Monday from Paris.

Swift said she's especially happy with the success of songs like "I Knew You Were Trouble," a dance-infused song that takes her further from her country realm than ever before.

"The fans have been so good to me this year," she said. "I wanted to make a genre-defying record, I wanted to make an album that was hard to pin down, and hard to box in."

Swift said fans should expect more surprises during her upcoming tour, which kicks off March 13 in Omaha, Neb. She's partnering with Diet Coke for the tour, and she's signed on to be a pitchwoman for the beverage.

While a recent op-ed piece in The New York Times questioned whether pop stars should be endorsing soft drinks with society's push toward a healthier lifestyle, Swift, who noted she's become more health-conscious, said the beverage is part of her life.

"I think my lifestyle plays a part into what I choose to endorse," Swift said. "Diet Coke is something that is a part of my life. ... Also a part of my life is exercise."

Her partnership with the soft drink company includes the use of social media platforms to connect with fans, something that Swift, an avid Tweeter and presence on Instagram, already uses on her own.

Whitney Houston's mother has words for Bobby Brown

NEW YORK (AP)—Cissy Houston has a few words, and a few more, for Bobby Brown.

In "Remembering Whitney," the mother of the late Whitney Houston writes that from the start she had doubted whether Brown was right for her daughter. And she thinks that Whitney might not have ended up so "deep" into drugs had they not stayed together.

"I do believe her life would have turned out differently," Houston writes. "It would have been easier for her to get sober and stay sober. Instead she was with someone who, like her, wanted to party. To me, he never seemed to be a help to her in the way she needed."

"Remembering Whitney" came out Tuesday, two weeks short of the first anniversary of Houston's death. She drowned in a hotel bathtub in Beverly Hills, Calif., at age 48. Authorities said her death was complicated by cocaine use and heart disease.

During a recent telephone interview, Houston said she has no contact with Brown and didn't see any reason to, not even concerning her granddaughter, Bobbi Kristina. She reaffirmed her comments in the book that Whitney Houston would have been better off without him. "How would you like it if he had anything to do with your daughter?" she asked.

A request to Brown's publi-

cist for comment was not immediately returned Monday.

Houston said she wanted the book published so the world would not believe the worst about her daughter. Cissy Houston, herself an accomplished soul and gospel singer who has performed with Elvis Presley and Aretha Franklin, describes Whitney as a transcendent talent and vivacious and generous person known affectionately by her childhood nickname, "Nippy." But she acknowledges in the book that her daughter could be "mean" and "difficult" and questions at times how well she knew her.

"In my darkest moments, I wonder whether Nippy loved me," she writes. "She always told me she did. But you know, she didn't call me much. She didn't come see me as much as I hoped she would."

But, "almost always," Whitney Houston was "the sweetest, most loving person in the room."

Brown is portrayed as childish and impulsive, hot tempered and jealous of his wife's success. Cissy Houston describes a 1997 incident when Whitney sustained a "deep cut" on her face while on a yacht with Brown in the Mediterranean. Whitney insisted it was an accident; Brown had slammed his hand on a table, breaking a plate. A piece of china flew up and hit Whitney, requiring surgery to cover any possible scar.

In Loving Memory of

Lucia Ana DLG. Cabrera Acebo

"Mama Cia"

September 2, 1963 – January 25, 2013

Was called to her eternal rest on Friday, January 25, 2013 at the age of 49.

"I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears." — Psalm 34:4

She now joins in her new life:

Mother: †Florida Ramos DLG. Cabrera

Her peaceful spirit and loving memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Father: Jesus San Nicolas Cabrera

Children and Grandchildren:

Joyce Marie DLG. Cabrera (Jacoby Jace and Joshua Jr.)

Jewels Malia A. Cabrera (Malana Saige)

Sisters, Brothers, In-Laws, and Children:

Barbara C. and Juan Joseph Ch. Santos

Jesse James DLG. Cabrera (James Lee, Jocelyn Mira, Jared Drake, Jesse Jr., and Lamari Leann)

Prescillia DLG. Cabrera (Remae Magdalene and Florida Ines)

Marian C. and Lysander B. Tudela (Keoni, Ty, Lance, and Elle Brie)

Joan DLG. Cabrera

Lourdes C. and Alexander M. Villazon (Jesse Joseph, Chloette, and Alexander Jude)

Mary Madalene DLG. Cabrera (Zaughn Michael)

John Diego DLG. Cabrera

Survived by numerous aunties, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, Godchildren, and friends.

Mass is being offered nightly at 6:00 pm at the Saint Jude Church followed by the Holy Rosary. On Saturday, February 2, 2013, at 7:30 am, her remains will be escorted from the Commonwealth Health Center Chapel to the Mt. Carmel Cathedral for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 am immediately followed by Interment Services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

**Si Yu'us Ma'ase
Ginen I Familia**

Actor Taye Diggs captures burglar

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles police say actor Taye Diggs chased down and captured a burglary suspect he found rummaging through his garage.

It happened after the “Private Practice” star and his wife returned to their Studio City home from the Screen Actors Guild Awards, where Diggs was a presenter.

LAPD spokesman Richard French says shortly before 11:30 p.m. Sunday, Diggs saw a man in his garage, apparently looking for items to steal.

French says the man ran off, but Diggs followed him down the street and held him for police. Neither man was hurt.

Twenty-year-old Hassan Juma was arrested and remains jailed Monday on \$50,000 bail.

Barbara Walters gets chickenpox



This June 23, 2012 file photo shows Barbara Walters presenting an award onstage at the 39th Annual Daytime Emmy Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.

NEW YORK (AP)—Barbara Walters would probably like to hit the reset button on 2013.

She's got the chickenpox and remains hospitalized more than a week after going in after falling and hitting her head at a pre-inaugural party in Washington on Jan. 19. A fellow host on the “The View,” Whoopi Goldberg, said Monday that Walters has been transferred to a New York hospital and hopes to go home soon.

“She’s been told to rest. She’s not allowed any visitors,” Goldberg said. “And we’re telling you, Barbara, no scratching!”

The 83-year-old news veteran,

who underwent heart surgery in May 2010, apparently avoided a disease that hits most people when they are children. It can be serious in older people because of the possibility of complications like pneumonia.

Even after concern about her fall had subsided, Walters had been kept hospitalized last week because of a lingering fever, and doctors found the unexpected cause.

“We love you, we miss you,” Goldberg said on “The View,” in a message to the show’s inventor. “We just don’t want to hug you.”

Lucasfilm pushes pause on 3-D ‘Star Wars’ prequels

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The force isn’t with the 3-D versions of the “Star Wars” prequels.

Lucasfilm said in a statement Monday that it’s postponing the scheduled 3-D releases of “Star Wars: Episode II—Attack Of

The Clones” and “Episode III—Revenge of the Sith” this fall to instead focus its efforts on “Star Wars: Episode VII.”

The Walt Disney Co. confirmed Friday that J.J. Abrams, creator of the TV series “Lost”

Rupert Sanders’ wife files for divorce in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rupert Sanders’ wife has filed for divorce five months after it was revealed the director had a brief affair with actress Kristen Stewart.

Liberty Ross, Sanders’ wife of more than nine years, filed for divorce Friday in Los Angeles citing irreconcilable differences. Ross’ filing cites irreconcilable differences for the couple’s breakup. They have two children, an 8-year-old daughter and 6-year-old son.

The model-actress is seeking

joint custody of the children and spousal support from her estranged husband, who directed Stewart in “Snow White and the Huntsman.”

TMZ, which first reported the filing, stated that Sanders also filed divorce paperwork but it was not available on Monday.

Stewart, who has been dating “Twilight” co-star Robert Pattinson, apologized for her fling with Sanders in July after it was revealed by US Weekly.



American actor Taye Diggs poses for a portrait, on Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2013 in New York.

AP

Amy Poehler working on ‘non-linear’ book

NEW YORK (AP)—Tina Fey had a million seller with a book of essays called “Bossypants.” Amy Poehler? She has a deal for a book which appears to be a little bit of everything.

The star of “Parks and Recreation” and former “Saturday Night Live” performer has an agreement with It Books for an “illustrated, non-linear diary.” It Books, a pop culture imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, announced Monday that the book is currently untitled and scheduled for 2014. Financial terms were not disclosed.

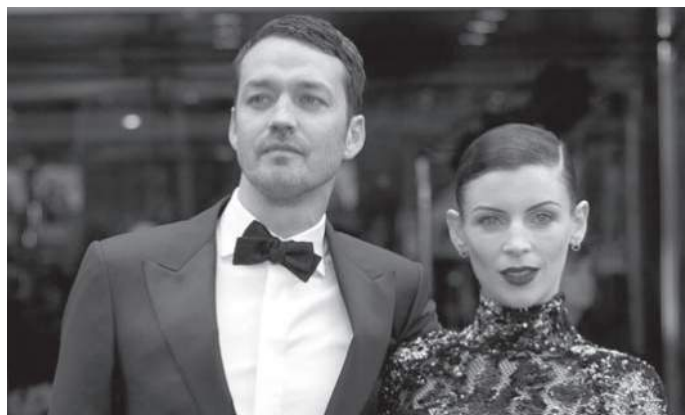
“Her original twist on the conventional memoir will have universal appeal,” ac-

cording to It Books. “An illustrated, non-linear diary full of humor and honesty and brimming with true stories, fictional anecdotes and life lessons, the book will be a unique and engaging experience from one of today’s most talented and beloved stars.”

It’s the first book for Poehler, who recently co-hosted the Golden Globes ceremony with Fey, her longtime friend and professional collaborator. Poehler will be edited by It Books’ Carrie Thornton, who said in a statement that after first talking to Poehler she was “blown away by her creativity and her passion.”



Poehler



In this May 14, 2012 file photo, actress Liberty Ross with director Rupert Sanders pose for the media at the World Premiere of the film, “Snow White and the Huntsman,” at a cinema in central London.

Man wants wife along for ride to take the reins and lead

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Do women ever initiate sex with men, or must they always be wooed, cajoled, begged or persuaded? I have a fairly good physical relationship with my wife, but it happens only when I make the overtures. I am left with the conclusion that either the physical act isn’t that enjoyable or I am not very desirable.

If every encounter must start with me, and my wife can take it or leave it, is she just doing me a favor? Must sex always start with the guy, or can women demonstrate more overt interest?

UNDERSEXED IN OHIO

DEAR UNDERSEXED: Many women—but not all—initiate sex with their partner. If your wife doesn’t, it may be she isn’t comfortable being the aggressor, her hormone levels have changed, sex may have become painful for her, or she never got much out of it in the first place.

Not knowing her, I can’t explain why she never makes the first move. But this I AM sure of—until you have a frank and honest discussion with her about it, nothing is going to change, and it may need to happen with the help of a marriage counselor.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to “Richard” for three years, but we have lived together for 10. I was Richard’s first and only girlfriend. He’s very shy and reserved, while I have always been the outgoing, rebellious type.

I have been communicating with another man, “Drew,” for about a year. It started out as me just having a little fun, but now I’m seriously considering leaving Richard. Although Drew and I have never met in person, we’re romantically involved and both of us believe we’re in love.

I love Richard, but I just don’t feel “in love” anymore. We have lost our connection. We have talked about our communication problems, and he knows about Drew. Despite my explaining what the problems were, I feel he has ignored the issues.

We have been trying to get pregnant for years and it hasn’t happened. I’m starting to believe it is a sign that I should move on. Should I follow my heart and be with Drew or stay with Richard despite my feelings? Please help.

DISTRAUGHT IN TEXAS

DEAR DISTRAUGHT: I’m willing to wager that if you devoted just a fraction of the energy you have spent on your extracurricular relationship to your husband, your marriage would be in better shape. With the help of a marriage counselor you might even be able to address those issues you feel have been ignored and re-establish your “connection.”

But for you to throw away your marriage for someone you haven’t met in person would be a serious mistake. Be glad that you haven’t gotten pregnant and dragged a child into this. It would have broken your husband’s heart, not only because you abandoned him but also because he would have been separated from the child he loved.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: A year ago I gave my brother-in-law a framed print that had belonged to my late husband. Some time afterward, out of curiosity, I researched it and found that it is worth far more than I realized—several thousand dollars.

I haven’t mentioned this to my brother-in-law. I would never ask for the print back, but would it be OK to let him know the value and mention that if he ever decides not to keep it, I might like it returned? (I would sell it and put the money in my daughter’s college fund.)

GAVE MORE THAN I THOUGHT

DEAR GAVE: Level with your brother-in-law about having researched the print and ask him to return it. When you do, tell him you need the money for your daughter’s college fund. Offer to exchange it for an item with sentimental value. Honesty is the best policy, and he may agree.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order “How to Have a Lovely Wedding.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

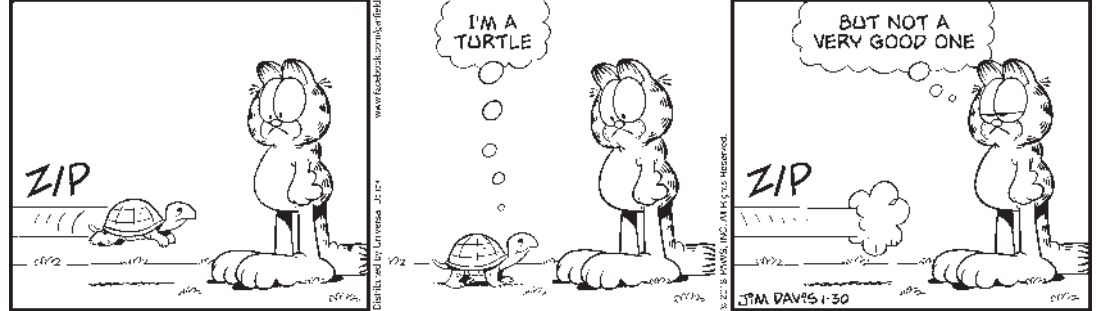
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

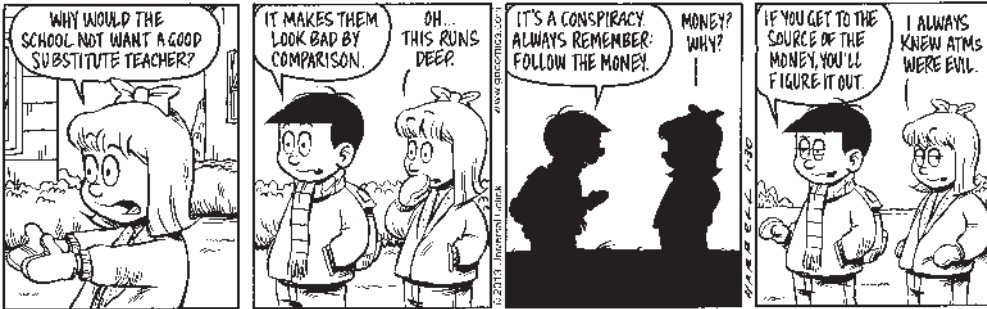


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

40 Under-stand
1 Departed
5 "Gosh!"
8 Capri or Wight
12 Wheel-base
13 Scepter
14 Mast
15 Punishing, in a way
17 Erstwhile acorns
18 Fares, at times
19 British P.M., 1945-51
21 "— the season ..."
22 Crucifix
23 Lived
26 AAA job
28 Grand tales
31 Rose fruit
33 Unruly bunch
35 Within (Pref.)
36 Give a speech
38 Kids' card game

DOWN

1 Final
2 World's fair
3 Anti-aircraft fire
4 Doctrine
5 Astronaut
6 A billion years
7 — Allan Poe
8 U-235, e.g.
9 Big name in sports
10 Victoria, for one
11 Gaelic
16 Make
19 Tofu
20 Sock part
23 Personal question?
24 Atmo-sphere
25 Generat-ing
27 "Holy mack-erell!"
29 B-F link
30 Drunkard
32 Stunt
34 Rapid outpour-ing
37 — out a living
39 Space
42 German city
44 Domest-icates
45 Lot wares
46 Anti-oxidant berry
48 "Thank You" singer
49 Race place
50 Holly-wood clashers
53 Opposite of "post-"

Solution time: 21 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | A | N | G | F | L | U | M | A | R | C |
| I | D | E | A | A | U | K | A | R | I | A |
| M | A | S | S | A | C | R | E | S | E | L |
| E | M | S | F | E | E | P | S | A | L | M |
| A | L | T | A | R | J | A | C | U | Z | Z |
| S | E | A | S | T | U | X | S | E | E | D |
| H | O | T | S | P | O | T | G | E | N | E |
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| A | R | C | O | M | A | S | S | E | N | E |
| L | A | N | T | I | A | N | T | S | O | L |
| L | E | S | I | D | E | E | I | B | S | P |

Yesterday's answer 1-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Josh Kelly, 33; Wilmer Valderrama, 33; Christian Bale, 39; Charles S. Dutton, 62.

Happy Birthday: Get your priorities straight before you make a decision that will affect you personally. A sensitive approach will guide you in the right direction when dealing with relationships. Put a little force behind any good deed you want to pursue and you will make a difference. Opportunity will be directly related to what you do for others. Your numbers are 2, 6, 19, 22, 34, 45, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look at facts, resolutions and future possibilities before you jump to conclusions and make a poor choice. You may feel pressured by someone, but that doesn't mean you have to make a move. Bide your time and formulate your strategy. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put greater emphasis on your reputation as well as your talents, skills and your image. How you portray yourself and what you have to offer others will make a difference. Focus on work that will benefit you and not someone else. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Size up your situation and don't leave anything to chance. You don't have to give away your secrets, but you do have to be honest. Don't allow your emotions to take over, leaving you in a vulnerable position. Use your intelligence to get ahead. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be drawn to the unusual, but in the end you will miss what's familiar as well as the

people you can rely on to get things done. Don't let someone else's moves cause you to second-guess what you should do next. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Look at your relationships carefully and decide who is on your side. You will feel compelled to make some alterations to the way you do things and how you live. Don't be swayed by someone using you to get ahead. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be careful what you wish for. Nothing will turn out to be as described. Do your research thoroughly before you decide to get involved in someone else's pursuit. Love and socializing will help take your mind off the uncertainty you face. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't reveal your secrets. Listen to what others have to say and pick and choose the information that will help you expand your interests, friendships and future pursuits. Don't let a personal relationship stand in the way of your professional success. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't share your ideas or plans for the future, especially with those you live with. You have to maintain a positive attitude before presenting your thoughts. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be quick to take advantage of someone else's misfortune. Don't worry about what it will take until after you secure your position and you will be well on your way to getting what you want. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can make solid investments to help secure your lifestyle and ensure that you keep the people you care about happy. Don't let what someone else does tempt you or cause you to question what is best for you. Love is highlighted. ★★★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't expect everyone to agree with you. The less said, the better. Take responsibility for your actions, but do what your heart tells you is right. Strive for a better home environment and to be with someone who shares your goals. ★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotional matters will surface if you question your relationship with someone who has different standards and lifestyle. Avoid excessive people who have the potential to cost you financially or personally. Strive to make your personal life more stable. ★★



Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable, powerful and aggressive. You think and react quickly.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | 7 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 4 | | |
| | 2 | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | 3 | | | |
| | | | | | 5 | | | | |
| | | 8 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| | | | 2 | | | | | | |
| | | 5 | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | 7 | |
| 6 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 8 | | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★

1/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 1 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 8 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 |
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Difficulty Level ★★

1/29

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle: — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SOME SAMPLES

Solution: 9 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| P | C | S | M | G | F | E | R | T | I | L | I | T | Y | N |
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| S | S | E | U | S | H | C | V | O | E | S | V | T | O | |
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| S | S | E | R | U | T | A | R | E | P | M | E | T | M | T |

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Area, Barium, Boron, Chemistry, City, Contaminant, Cure, Depth, Direct, Down, Fertility, Fields, Gardening, Germs, Grain, Iron, Labs, Levels, Light, Liquid, Methods, Mixing, Moisture, Moss, Nitrogen, Organic, Phosphorus, Plant, Potassium, Records, Seed, Shear, Shovel, Size, Spring, Study, Sulphur, Temperatures, Time, Tools, Weights, Zinc

Yesterday's Answer: Advisory

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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- Knowledge in Quickbooks accounting software preferred;
- Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school;

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- Must be qualified to teach elementary English;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

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- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist church;
- Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;
- Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school;

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(4) SALES & MARKETING ASSOCIATES

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Vimar Offshore, Inc. dba Manic Inn. Email resume with job references to manicinn@pticom.com.

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Job vacancy announcement

Sales Clerk -2 positions
5 years experience

Requirements:

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- Neat in appearance and ability to communicate well with customers (excellent salesmanship qualities a must)
- self motivated - police and medical clearance required at interview
- flexible work hours
- clean background check (no ior criminal convictions) must be reliable, honest and trustworthy
- the ability to run the entire operation within two weeks of starting
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- 5.55 per hr

For more information please call 235-6988

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Interested qualified applicants can submit their resume and latest police clearance via e-mail to saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc., PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950. Closing Date: February 1, 2013

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Job Vacancy Announcement

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- *SOC ONet 41-4011.00
- *Must have a 2 college degree with at least 2 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a high school diploma with possessing minimum 5 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry
- *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license
- *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours
- *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Marketing Assistant Manager (1 position) \$6.50/hour
Qualification Requirements:

- *SOC ONet 11-2021.00
- *Must have a 4-college degree with at least 4 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a 2-year college degree with at least 8 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry
- *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license
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- *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

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Qualification Requirements:

- *SOC synthesized ONet 11-1021.00 & 11-3011.00
- *Must have a 4-college degree with at least 4 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry or a high-school diploma with possessing minimum 10 year fulltime relevant work experience in a non-alcohol beverage wholesale industry
- *Holding a valid CNMI driver's license
- *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours
- *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

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- *Fluent in Chinese speaking, listening, reading and writing
- *Able to work under pressure with flexible work hours
- *Willing to travel frequently
- *Good in basic business math with honest personal characters

Interested applicants please submit a resume with supporting documents to APEX Corporation, Contact Person: Michael Zhang or Peter Xu, Fax number: (670) 288-3389 before 5:00 P.M., February 4, 2013. Thank you.

S P O R T S

WOODS WINS AT TORREY PINES FOR 8TH TIME

FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

(AP)—Tiger Woods was so good for so long at Torrey Pines that it didn't matter how bad it looked at the end. In a finish that was fitting for such a long and exasperating week, Woods built an eight-shot lead with five holes to play on Monday until he lost patience with the slow play and started losing shots that only determined the margin of victory. Despite two bogeys and a double bogey in the final hour, he closed with an even-par 72 for a four-shot victory in the Farmers Insurance Open

"I'm excited the way I played all week," Woods said. "I hit the ball well - pretty much did everything well and built myself a nice little cushion. I had some mistakes at the end, but all my good play before that allowed me to afford those mistakes."

He won for the 75th time in his PGA Tour career, seven behind the record held by Sam Snead.

Woods won this tournament for the seventh time, and he set a PGA Tour record by winning at Torrey Pines for the eighth time, including his 2008 U.S. Open. Woods also has won seven times at Bay Hill and at Firestone.

Torrey Pines is a public course that he has turned into his private domain.

"I don't know if anybody would have beaten him this week," said Nick Watney, who got within five shots of Woods when the tournament was still undecided until making three bogeys on his next five holes. "He's definitely on his game."

It was the 23rd time Woods has won by at least four shots on the PGA Tour. Defending champion Brandt Snedeker (69) and Josh Teater (69) tied for the second. Watney had a 71 and tied for fourth with Jimmy Walker.

It was a strong statement for Woods, who was coming off a missed cut last week in Abu Dhabi. This was the second time in his career that Woods won in his next tournament after missing the cut, but this was the first time it happened the following week.

Abu Dhabi is now a distant memory. The question how is what kind of season is shaping up for Woods.

"I think he wanted to send a message," said Hunter Mahan, who shares a swing coach with Woods. "I think deep down he did. You play some games to try to motivate yourself. There's been so much talk about Rory (McIlroy). Rory is now with Nike. That would be my guess."

The last time Woods won at Torrey Pines also was on a Monday, when he beat Rocco Mediate in a playoff to cap

ture the U.S. Open for his 14th major.

Of all his wins on this course along the Pacific, this might have been the most peculiar.

Thick fog cost the tournament an entire day of golf on Saturday, forcing the first Monday finish in tournament history. Woods effectively won the tournament during his 25 holes on Sunday, when he turned a two-shot lead into a six-shot margin with only 11 holes to play. CBS Sports wanted to televise the final day in late afternoon on the East Coast, but it still went long because of the pace of play.

It took Woods about 3 hours, 45 minutes to finish his 11 holes on Monday. His 19-hole win over Mediate lasted 4 1/2 hours.

As much as Woods got off to a good start, equal attention was given to slow play, an increasing problem on the PGA Tour.

"It got a little ugly toward the end," Woods said. "I started losing patience a little bit with the slow play. I lost my concentration a little bit."

He made bogey from the bunker on No. 14. He hooked a tee shot off the eucalyptus trees and into a patch of ice plant on the 15th, leading to double bogey. After another long wait

on the 17th tee, he popped up his tee shot and made another bogey. With a four-shot lead on the 18th—Kyle Stanley blew a three-shot lead a year ago—he hit wedge safely behind the hole for a two-putt par.

Woods finished on 14-under 274 for his 14th win in California, and 11th in San Diego County.

"I think a win always makes it special, especially the way I played," Woods said. "To have not won would have been something else because I really played well. Playing the way I did for most of this tournament, until the very end, the last five holes, I felt like I should have won this tournament. I put myself in a position where I had a big enough lead, and that's basically how I felt like I played this week."

"I know I can do that, and it was nice to be able to do it."

Like so many of his big wins, the only drama was for second place.

Brad Fritsch, the rookie from Canada, birdied his last two holes for a 75. That put him into a tie for ninth, however, making him eligible for the Phoenix Open next week. Fritsch had been entered in the Monday qualifier that he had to abandon when the Farmers Insurance Open lost Saturday to a fog delay.

Woods was so far ahead that he would have had to collapse for anyone to have a chance, and that never looked possible.

Even so, the red shirt seemed to put him on edge. It didn't help that as he settled over his tee shot on the par-5 ninth, he backed off when he heard a man behind the ropes take his picture.

Woods rarely hits the fairway after an encounter with a camera shutter, and this was no different—it went so far right that it landed on the other side of a fence enclosing a corporate hospitality area.

Woods took his free drop, punched out below the trees into the fairway and then showed more irritation when his wedge nicked the flag after one hop and spun down the slope 30 feet away instead of stopping next to the hole.

He didn't show much reaction on perhaps his most memorable shot of the day - with his legs near the edge of a bunker some 75 feet to the left of the 11th green, he blasted out to the top shelf and watched the ball take dead aim until it stopped a foot short. A two-putt birdie on the 13th gave him an eight-shot lead, and then it was only a matter of time—a lot of time—until the trophy presentation.

Tiger Woods celebrates after his victory in the Farmers Insurance Open golf tournament Monday, Jan. 28, 2013, in San Diego. AP

Fresh faces at quarterback in Super Bowl



NEW ORLEANS (AP)—No Tom Brady. No Aaron Rodgers. No Ben Roethlisberger. Not a Manning in sight.

Super Bowl has a pair of fresh faces at quarterback, bona fide nobodies as far as the NFL title game goes. One will leave New Orleans as football's newest star.

For Colin Kaepernick and Joe Flacco, this is new territory. And, of course, exactly where they want to be.

"To be AFC champs feels good," Flacco said Monday. "We move on now to this challenge."

Flacco, the only quarterback to win a playoff game in each of his first five NFL seasons, will lead the Baltimore Ravens into Sunday's matchup against the NFC-winning San Francisco 49ers and Kaepernick, a backup for most of his two seasons.

It's the first time in a decade that the big game doesn't feature one of the big five household names in the glamour position.

You can't get much fresher than quarterbacks who never have gotten this far before.

"At the start of the season, I was just hoping to get on the field some way, somehow," said Kaepernick, the backup for Alex Smith, who took the 49ers to the



This combo photo shows the battle of fresh faces at quarterbacks, Baltimore Ravens' Joe Flacco, right, and the San Francisco 49ers' Colin Kaepernick, in this year's Super Bowl. AP

conference final last season.

He got that chance after Smith sustained a concussion on Nov. 11, and hasn't seen the bench since.

Win this one and he'll have a piece of history, joining a heady

quarterback club that includes Hall of Famers Joe Montana and Steve Young, who guided the 49ers to five NFL titles—a victory every time they played. No. 6 would tie the team with Roethlisberger's Pittsburgh

Steelers—a record for most Super Bowl wins.

A second-round draft pick in 2011 out of Nevada—not exactly Alabama—Kaepernick has the shortest pro resume of any Super Bowl quarterback. It's impres-

sive, nonetheless. His legs (181 yards rushing against Green Bay, a record for the position) and his arm (105.9 passer rating in the postseason) are the main reasons San Francisco is in its first NFL title game in 18 years.

"Anybody that is out there on the football field, you want to see them produce and get results," left tackle Joe Staley said. "With Colin, his first couple of starts, you did not know what to expect because we had not seen him out there as a starting quarterback. He did amazing and he has all season, as well as the playoffs. I think it was one of those things where we saw him in practice and we just wanted to see how he was going to handle the situation in the games. He has done that."

49ers' Gore keeps hope through all the adversity

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Ray Rice has known nothing but winning since he came into the NFL.

For Frank Gore, it took a while.

Two running backs with contrasting styles and story lines will be on display at this Super Bowl, but they have one thing in common—plenty of respect for each other.

"To battle through what he's been through? He's a warrior," Rice said Monday evening, shortly after the Baltimore Ravens arrived in the Big Easy. "Hats off to my man Frank."

Gore, the leading rusher for the San Francisco 49ers, also was generous with the praise.

"He does it all. I love to watch him," Gore said of his Ravens counterpart. "When I saw him in college, I knew he was going to be a pretty good back in the league."

They both are.

But, boy, they sure took different paths to get here.

The 29-year-old Gore has endured plenty of losses, personal heartache (losing his mother to kidney failure) and a startling string of injuries that might've broken a lesser man. He tore up both knees in college at the University of Miami, prompting him to wonder if "football wasn't for me." Shaking off the doubts, he was drafted by the 49ers, but needed major surgery on both shoulders after his rookie campaign. Later, he lost part of another

season to a hip injury.

Even harder to take, Gore played on a series of bad teams. Really bad teams. His first six years in the league, the 49ers failed to post a winning record—which was especially hard for him to take, considering he had known nothing but winning with the Hurricanes.

"It was tough, real tough," Gore said. "I would see some guys—who are not here anymore—after we lost, and they would just be like, 'Whatever.' I was not used to that. If we lost one game at Miami, it was like our season was over."

One of his teammates, full-back Bruce Miller, has noticed the determination in Gore's eyes as the team prepares to face the Baltimore Ravens in the title game Sunday.

"It means a lot to him," Miller said. "In meetings and at practice, you can see how intense and focused he is. He's worked hard for it."

For Rice, the road has been much smoother.

Since he was drafted in 2008 out of Rutgers, the Ravens have made the playoffs every season, including three trips to the ACC championship game. This season, they got over that hump with a major upset at New England.

"I've been blessed and fortunate," Rice said.

Rice is a slasher of a back, darting through the smallest of openings to break off big gains. He's rushed for more

than 1,000 yards four years in a row and is just as valuable in the passing game, recording more than 60 receptions each of those seasons, as well.

In a November game at San Diego, he provided one of the most memorable plays of 2012. With the Ravens down by three and facing fourth-and-29, he hauled in a pass just past the line of scrimmage, swerved away from three defenders, broke a tackle that would have clinched the victory for the Chargers and lunged just beyond the first-down stripe for a 30-yard gain.

The Ravens kicked a tying field goal, then won the game in overtime.

Gore is a power back, someone who can churn out the tough yards between the tackles. That style has served him well; he's run for more than 1,000 yards six of the last seven seasons and become San Francisco's career leader in rushing touchdowns.

"We always credit Frank with the tough yards," Miller said. "He doesn't get the easy runs. It's up the middle, three or four yards a carry. But he just continues to move the chains. That's why we're here."

Despite their lofty numbers, both running backs are a bit overlooked heading into the title game.

In San Francisco, quarterback Colin Kaepernick and the pistol offense are all the

rage. For Baltimore, much of the attention is focused on retiring linebacker Ray Lewis and quarterback Joe Flacco, who has finally escaped his playoff demons.

"When you look at the criticism that Flacco has been through, and you see what a young quarterback like Kaepernick is doing, I would make them the headlines, too," Rice said. "I'm just being honest."

But, chances are, Rice and Gore will have a significant impact on the outcome Sunday, especially since their rookie backups—LaMichael James in San Francisco, Bernard Pierce in Baltimore—emerged as major threats late in the season and playoffs, taking some of the load off the two starters.

"It keeps me fresh," Gore said. "Early in my career, I probably wouldn't have liked it. Now, it gets me ready for the fourth quarter. When the defense is wearing down, that's when I get going."

All the warm and fuzzy feelings will be put on hold in the Super Bowl.

But no matter who's hoisting the trophy at the end of the game, Gore and Rice will remain fans of each other.

"We don't have to hit each other," Rice quipped. "I'd like to win on Sunday. I don't want to see him do good on our defense. But any other time I watch Frank Gore do well, I'm happy for him."

Still, he's new to this environment and that hardly seems to faze Kaepernick.

"One thing I've always said about him from the start is he comes off as a guy that has a lot of confidence," said center Jonathan Goodwin, who won a Super Bowl snapping for Drew Brees and the Saints three years ago. "I'm not just saying that. You can feel it by the way he acts and talks."

Flacco has that air of certainty, too, but at least it's built on a more substantial foundation, including an 8-4 mark in the playoffs, with six road wins—the most for any quarterback, Montana and Young included. That goes for Baltimore's John Unitas, too.

Nobody is comparing Flacco to them just yet, except for the self-belief he brings to the job.

"You naturally become more of the guy when you spend a number of years in the league," he said at the Ravens' first Super Bowl news conference Monday. "As a quarterback, it's my job to lead from Day 1."

As a five-year starter, that's exactly what Flacco did after Baltimore drafted him out of Delaware—yep, not exactly Alabama.

As has become the custom in the NFL, Flacco represents the high draft pick who steps behind center early in his career and, usually, stays there. Both Mannings did it, as did Roethlisberger. Just this season, the top two picks in the draft, QBs Andrew Luck and Robert Griffin III, were anointed starters at the outset and played sensationally.

Now Flacco and Kaepernick try to join those big-name quarterbacks who own all those Super Bowl rings.

"We try to pass tests every day," Flacco said.

That's how you become a Super Bowl quarterback.

Jeter on field for first time since breaking ankle



TAMPA, Fla.

(AP)—Derek

Jeter worked out on a baseball field Monday for the first time since breaking his left ankle last October.

The 38-year-old New York Yankees captain fielded 55 grounders on the grass in front of the infield dirt at shortstop at the team's minor league complex. He also hit in a batting cage.

"Everything went well," Jeter said as he drove out of the complex.

The 13-time All-Star expects to start in New York's opener against Boston on April 1. This is the time of year Jeter usually starts his onfield pre-spring training routine.

Jeter broke the ankle lunging for a grounder in the AL championship series opener against Detroit on Oct. 13. He had surgery a week later, and the Yankees said recovery time would

be four to five months.

Jeter has been walking on an underwater treadmill at the team's facility since early January.

Wearing Yankees shorts and a T-shirt with long sleeves, the shortstop walked from the clubhouse to the main field without a limp. Several team officials, including trainer Mark Littlefield, watched Jeter's workout.

Jeter, who spent 90 minutes at the complex, did not run—he may not until spring training starts in mid-February.

Jeter had a resurgent season in 2012, leading the American League with 216 hits and batted .316 with 15 homers and 58 RBIs. He first injured his ankle in mid-September and then fouled balls off his foot several times after that.

Yankees' pitchers and catchers are scheduled to report for spring training two weeks from Tuesday.

Iguodala's last-second free throw lifts Nuggets



DENVER (AP)—Andre Iguodala made a free throw with 0.4 seconds remaining after forcing a turnover to deny a last-second shot by Indiana, and the Denver Nuggets beat the Pacers 102-101 Monday night.

Iguodala finished with 13 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists, making up for his 5-of-10 shooting from the free throw line with the one at the end along with the defensive play of the game when he stole the ball from Paul George as the Pacers' guard maneuvered for a last-second shot.

Iguodala signaled for time out with 0.5 seconds remaining. On the inbounds, Andre Miller lobbed a pass toward the basket that Iguodala and George both went after with George making contact and getting called for the foul.

Iguodala, who had missed four consecutive free throws earlier in the fourth quarter, coolly sank the tiebreaker and missed the second on purpose and the buzzer sounded as the ball rattled off the backboard.

Danilo Gallinari had 27 points to lead the Nuggets, who recovered after giving up a 14-point lead in the fourth quarter and won their fourth straight. Ty Lawson added 18 points and Corey Brewer had 16.

George had 23 points to lead the Pacers, who lost their third straight, matching a season-high. Lance Stephenson scored 20 points and David West added 17.

The Nuggets got 10 points from Timofey Mozgov, who moved up in the rotation to play significant minutes in place of injured JaVale McGee. The 7-foot McGee was sidelined by soreness in his left shin. He was scheduled to undergo an MRI on Tuesday to try to determine the severity of the injury.

Denver also was without another top reserve, Wilson Chandler, a late scratch because of a left groin strain.

After Stephenson made a layup to pull the Pacers within a point with 5:47 remaining in the third, the Nuggets scored 10 of the next 13 points en route to taking an 82-74 lead into the fourth quarter. Gallinari got the run going by converting a three-point play and sinking a 3-pointer the next time down the floor.

Lawson's layup capped a 6-0 run and put the Nuggets up 96-82 with 6:44 remaining.

Roy Hibbert started a tying 13-0 run for the Pacers as he broke free underneath for a dunk and George had a four-point play to pull the Pacers to 99-97 with 3:08 remaining.

Rockets 125, Jazz 80

In Salt Lake City, James Harden scored 25 points and the Houston Rockets rolled by the Jazz 125-80 on Monday night, handing Utah its worst home loss in franchise history.

Denver Nuggets guard Andre Iguodala, left, works ball inside for a shot as Indiana Pacers forward Paul George covers in the fourth quarter of the Nuggets' 102-101 victory in an NBA basketball game in Denver on Monday, Jan. 28, 2012.

AP



The Jazz had won six straight at home but simply couldn't keep pace in transition. They were outscored 26-2 on the break and shot just 39.5 percent. Their previous worst was by 33 points to Milwaukee on Nov. 18, 1980.

Carlos Delfino and Marcus Morris each hit four 3-pointers for Houston, which made 16 of 34 from beyond the arc. Omer Asik had 19 rebounds as the Rockets (25-22) won their third straight.

Houston led by 21 points in the second, by 35 in the third and kept pouring it on fourth.

Randy Foye led Utah with 12 points.

The Jazz hardly looked like the team that had won nine of their previous 12. They fell behind by nine early but rallied to tie it at 22 late in the first.

Bulls 93, Bobcats 85

In Chicago, Jimmy Butler scored a career-high 19 points and Nate Robinson added 15 as the Chicago Bulls defeated the Charlotte Bobcats 93-85 on Monday night.

Luol Deng returned to the Bulls' lineup after missing five games with a hamstring injury, and scored 12 points in 31 minutes. The Bulls won three of five without Deng as his absence was eased by the strong play of Butler, who returned to a reserve role.

Joakim Noah finished with 13 points, 18 rebounds and seven assists to help Central Division-leading Chicago win for the seventh time in its last nine games.

Kemba Walker and Ben Gordon led the Bobcats with 18 points apiece. Charlotte has lost nine of its last 11 games.

Chicago pulled away late in the third quarter behind Rob-

inson. After Walker's jumper erased a 14-point deficit and tied the score at 55, the Bulls scored 13 straight points. Robinson sparked the run with a pair of 3-pointers then had a steal to set up a dunk by Butler to put Chicago up 68-55.

Grizzlies 103, Sixers 100

In Philadelphia, Rudy Gay to Toronto. Rudy Gay to Boston. It's easier to count the teams who don't covet Gay.

But as long as he's still with Memphis, Gay is doing what he can to help the Grizzlies win.

Gay scored 26 points and scored the winning basket off his own rebound with 13.3 seconds left to lead Memphis to a 103-100 win over the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday night.

Gay's name is one of the hottest around in NBA trade ru-

mors. The Grizzlies, who rallied from 17 points down to beat the Sixers, are fourth in the Western Conference and listening to offers for their leading scorer.

He showed his value down the stretch, hitting the go-ahead bucket, then sinking two free throws to seal the win.

"Whether I'm here or not, it shouldn't affect this team," Gay said. "I'm going to be a professional about it and make sure that it doesn't."

Kings 96, Wizards 94

In Washington, Isaiah Thomas made a floater with a second to play, capping a seesaw finish as the Sacramento Kings broke a four-game losing streak with a 96-94 win over the Washington Wizards on Monday night.

Thomas dribbled down the clock after the Wizards tied the game on Martell Webster's

short jumper with 7.9 seconds to play, then drove down the middle and put the ball in with a soft touch from 9 feet.

ter and also had seven assists. Francisco Garcia scored 17 points for the Kings in a game that included 16 ties and 11 lead changes.

Emeka Okafor scored a season-high 23 points and grabbed 15 rebounds, and John Wall had 19 points and six assists for the Wizards, whose home winning streak ended at five games. Still, Washington is 6-4 and has been competitive in every game since Wall's return from a knee injury.

Warriors 114, Raptors 102

In Toronto, David Lee had 21 points and 12 rebounds, Stephen Curry scored 17 points before leaving with an injury, and the Golden State Warriors beat the

Toronto Raptors 114-102 on Monday night.

Klay Thompson scored 19 points, Carl Landry had six of his 12 points in the fourth quarter and Andrew Bogut returned from an injury to also score 12 as the Warriors earned their first victory in four games against Eastern Conference opponents this month.

Harrison Barnes and Jarrett Jack each scored 14 for Golden State, which wraps up a four-game road trip at Cleveland on Tuesday.

Aaron Gray had a career-high 22 points and 10 rebounds, DeMar DeRozan scored 21 points and Ed Davis had 12 for the Raptors, who have lost seven of nine. Alan Anderson, Jose Calderon and Terrence Ross each scored 11 for Toronto.

Nets 97, Magic 77

In New York, Deron Williams had 20 points and nine assists, and the Brooklyn Nets beat the Orlando Magic 97-77 on Monday night for their eighth straight home victory.

The Nets rebounded from their first two-game losing streak under P.J. Carlesimo, finishing off a four-game sweep of the Magic, who dropped their sixth straight.

Brook Lopez scored 16 points and Joe Johnson had 13 for the Nets, who tied a franchise record with their 11th victory in January and can break it when they host the NBA champion Miami Heat on Wednesday.

Nikola Vucevic had 18 points and nine rebounds for the Magic, who lost for the 17th time in 19 games. Their last two losses had each been by two points, but they were blown out of this one early.

Routed by Memphis and Houston to end their four-game road trip, the Nets quickly got back on track at home against an overmatched opponent. But now comes a difficult stretch, with Chicago following Miami into Barclays Center on Friday and the improving Los Angeles Lakers visiting next Tuesday.

Djokovic sets sights on elusive French Open



MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—In years past, Novak Djokovic marked his victories at the Australian Open with rowdy late-night celebrations and bleary-eyed photo shoots the next morning in downtown Melbourne.

This year's win made history but inspired a more sober reaction.

After beating Andy Murray to become the only man to win three consecutive Australian Open titles, the No. 1-ranked player didn't feel the need to celebrate immediately.

Instead, he booked an early Monday flight home to start preparing for his next challenge: the clay courts of Europe.

The Serb has the Davis Cup

next weekend and a few months away is the French Open—the one major that has eluded him. Djokovic now has six Grand Slam tournament trophies, four overall from the Australian Open and one each from Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in 2011.

Djokovic wrapped up his victory at the Australian Open on a sweet note.

A master at playing to his audience, Djokovic came with several boxes of chocolates to his post-match news conference and then played host as he distributed them to a room packed with journalists.

"Please, take two," Djokovic said, offering his box of treats to one reporter at a time.

"I see nobody's on a sugar-free diet," he joked as the choc-

olates began to disappear.

An entertainer on court and off, Djokovic is known for celebrating hard-fought victories at Rod Laver Arena by ripping off his shirt. He kept his clothes on for this final, but did bare his chest after winning a five-hour thriller over Stanislas Wawrinka in the fourth round.

"It's definitely my favorite Grand Slam," Djokovic said during his victory speech on center court. "It's an incredible feeling winning this trophy once more. I love this court."

To mark the national holiday on Saturday, Djokovic pinned a fuzzy koala to his sweat shirt and walked into his pre-final news conference saying, "Happy Australia Day!"

He was asked on Sunday if

his good humor was a conscious effort, which made Djokovic turn philosophical.

"I try to enjoy what I do, and every moment of the life that I have is a blessing," he said. "What else can you do but to be happy and try to bring that joy to the other people around - especially in the tournaments."

"Everybody has bad days," he added. "I'm not always funny or laughing."

He then apologized to reporters for canceling the winner's traditional day-after news conference scheduled for Monday. He said he wanted to get back to Europe to begin practicing for the Davis Cup, which starts next weekend.

That's when he brought out the chocolates, as a consolation prize. "Let's keep it sweet," he said.

Bandits, Cargo Express rout separate foes

By **WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER



Bandits defeated Ol'Aces, 82-74, in Group B and Cargo Express coasted past Yuichiro Electric, 84-76, in a Group C as the 3rd Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League continued last Saturday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Meanwhile, Group C's Hite and Group A's Angie's Boys each bagged their first win this past Thursday. The former defeated Yuman Construction, 64-58, while the latter squeaked past the Rollers Basketball Club's Rollers, 89-88.

Pool play concluded over the weekend and the elimination games start tonight in Garapan at 6:30pm and 8pm.

In Saturday's opener, Ol'Aces managed a slim one-possession advantage in the first two periods as Ryan Ichihara and Peter Camacho teamed up for 15 points in the opening exchange that was complemented by a 10-point rush by Elias Rangamar in the second quarter. The latter drained a pair of long-range bombs and logged a team-high dozen markers at midpoint.

Ol'Aces held its opponents to

just 13 points in the second frame, but the Bandits were far from finished and saved its energy for the second half.

The Bandits went on to claim the lead, 60-55, heading into the last quarter and had little trouble protecting the ball in the payoff period.

The short-handed Ol'Aces hung around early, but ran out of gas soon after its second quarter charge.

Jomar Tumaquip's 10 points led the Bandits' comeback surge after the break and he co-captained the group with Gil Gapor who provided 8 points of insurance in the final period. Ol'Aces' Ichihara (20) and Rangamar (18) led the box scores with two other teammates in double digits, but

Fun 'Love's' Run fundraiser set for Feb. 16



The DFS Galleia Team DFS-670 employees club is holding its Fun "Love's" Run 5K and 10K fundraiser on Feb. 16 along Beach Road.

The Top 5 finishers of each division will receive some handsome rewards provided by DFS.

The 10-kilometer route begins at DFS and runs south

the group's lack of depth may have been the deal breaker.

In the late match, Cargo Express exploded to a 25-6 lead in the opening 10 minutes from a dual effort of 15 points by Randy Mungcal and Noel David.

Yuichiro battled back in the second quarter with a trio of 3-pointers that more or less halved the deficit to 28-38 at halftime.

Cargo Express' first line then poured it on again in the third period and amassed a daunting 63-44 separation heading into the last frame. Jun Tabora carried the torch for Cargo Express in the third quarter with 11 points.

Remarkably, Yuichiro actually made up quite a bit of ground in the last hurrah, but the group was still way too far behind to posture

along Beach Road to First Hawaiian Bank in Oleai and back, while the 5K route ventures the same direction to Triple J Motors and back. Proceeds from the race will benefit Team DFS-670's annual DFS Goodwill Olympics Games between DFS Saipan's Team 670 and DFS Guam's Team 671.

Entry fee is only \$10 and runners will be given raffle tickets

Chinatown 75, JWS 68

Free throws were also the deciding factor in the first game between Chinatown and JWS.

Chinatown went on to post a 7-point winning margin, which all came from the foul line. Justin Zapanta canned four charities, Paul Quizon added two, and Jerome Norita made one.

The trio scored the bulk of Chinatown's points to give the team its second straight win after bowing to the Sexy Boys in the division opener. Zapanta had a game-high 23 points, Quizon chipped in 21, and Norita contributed 14. Arvin Avila was the fourth Chinatown player to finish in twin digits with his 10.

Avila nailed 6 his total markers in the second quarter to lift Chinatown to a 35-21 halftime advantage. Norita also notched 6 points in the second-frame breakaway, while Quizon canned two triples.

JWS, which led after the first, 16-13, lost the upper hand as it made only two field goals and 5 points in the second canto. How-

ever, JWS returned to the thick of the fight in the third, moving within four, 46-50, off Cecilio Bisana's 11 points in that period.

The game remained close in the fourth with Chinatown still securing the win with its steady performance at the 15-foot line.

a real comeback.

Mungcal edged out his wingman Tabora by a basket and finished with a game-high 25 points across 18 checks by Yuichiro's Jerome Reyes.

Thursday's match between Hite and Yuman was close all the way to the end.

Both teams ended up knotted at 18-all after the opening exchange with Hite accruing its offense from a number of different players. Yuman's L. Iglesias and Andy Mortos carried the group through the first period with 14 points.

Both teams tightened up on defense in the second quarter, as Hite then clung to a wiry, 32-29, lead at the pause.

The rival squads were caught in a second bottleneck at 50-all, for the awards ceremony.

Onsite registration begins at 5:15am with the race scheduled for 6am. Pre-registration forms can be obtained at DFS from 10:30am to 10pm.

Event organizers request that participants dress in red in light of Valentine's Day.

For more information, contact DFS' Ben Babauta at 483-2563. *(Walter Cepeda Sutherland)*

after the third period as Yuman's Iglesias heated up for 9 points in effort to ignite a rally.

Hite continued utilizing a well-balanced offensive attack through three quarters and beyond as the group really focused more on defense in the payoff period to get over the hump.

The tactic worked out in the end as Yuman mustered just 8 points in the fourth quarter, while Hite's Ray Babauta came out strong late in the game to close

BLUE HAUS

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ball to Gino Libuw, who tried to drive to the baseline, but ran out of space and time as the final buzzer sounded.

Lions Club/NMC Proa had the first chance to break the deadlock and stole the win from Blue Haus after trailing by twin digits. However, Jack Lizama only split his free throws before Barbo attacked the basket on the other end and also trooped to the foul line for the important charities.

Game 2 of the finals series tips off tonight at 6:30pm, however it may be pushed back to 8pm as an unconfirmed consolation pairing between OCM Corporation and Kentucky Fried Chicken/Taco Bell may precede the main feature.

Blue Haus escaped with the victory after squandering an 11-point lead at the start of the fourth quarter, 58-47. A 12-0 run in the fourth frame helped Proa grab the lead and it held a loose grip on the driver's seat, 74-72, going into the final 90 seconds of regulation before falling short in the end.

A late six point surge by Elmer Esdrelon, Barbo's split, and Blue Haus sturdy defense in the clutch handed the team the close

the door.

He splashed in a pair of treys for 8 points in the fourth quarter and finished with a team-high 14, while Yuman's Mortos led all scorers with 18.

In last week's other game, the Rollers grinded out an early 21-19 lead from the tip off a baker's dozen contributed by Ham Hambros and Prince Factor, but it was an even matchup that went back and Angie's Boys swiped the lead at the half, 41-40.

win in the series opener.

The first quarter of Game 1 ended in a 17-all standstill, as Proa's Jack Lizama and Blue Haus' Bret Sutton led their squads on offense with 8 and 6 points, respectively. Then a mixed bag of six players contributed for Blue Haus in the second quarter for a 39-32 halftime lead.

Blue Haus stretched it to a healthy 58-49 favor after three quarters, as Leo Galarse rained in a couple of three-pointers for 8 points in the push.

Proa was never really out of the match and rose to the occasion in the final exchange, however it committed critical fouls and had some missed opportunities on offense to hand Game 1 to Blue Haus.

Lerio Pagarao had an impressive showing in the series opener, scoring 31 points and leading Proa's fourth quarter rally with his 16 points. Esdrelon fronted Blue Haus with his 17 markers.

Blue Haus 76 – Esdrelon 17, Tumaquip 14, Sutton 12, Barbo 9, Galarse 8, David 5, Guiab 4, Santos 4, Talania 2, Berline 1.

Lions Club/NMC Proa 75 – Pagarao 31, Lizama 19, Barcinas 8, Libuw 6, Yabut 4, Devero 4, Chariton 1.

Scoring by quarters: 17-17, 39-32, 58-47, 76-75.

VACOS

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5:30pm to remain in contention in the double-elimination tournament.

Manam'ko knocked off Harapwang Face in two sets, 15-11, 15-6, while Managaha defeated Managaha Boys also in two sets, 15-10, 15-9.

The finals are scheduled for Feb. 15 with modest cash prizes, in kind gifts, and bragging rights going to the overall winners.

Fiesta, Brabu, KZMI 103.9 FM and Gold's Gym are sponsoring the event, which will use its proceeds for NMIVA's youth volleyball development programs and international travel expenses.

Clinic tourneys postponed

Meanwhile, NMIVA's Beach Clinic Tournaments have been postponed and may resume on Feb. 2

The competition has three categories: U13 mixed boys and girls, U18 mixed junior men and women's and U25 mixed men's and women.

The tournaments start out with pool play rounds, which will set the seeding for a double elimination series. Game point for all divisions is set at 15 with a cap of 21 and a "must win by two" rule in effect.

The free tournaments are bannered as training events because they feature special ground rules to encourage players to utilize the skills they have been learning at the weekly practice sessions.

Special ground rules for the U13 division include awarding a bonus point to teams that score on a play using a bump or hand-set leading to a spike, in addition to receiving a second opportunity upon attempting an over hand serve. A point must be credited on a play in order to receive the extra point and a second serve is only awarded if the first sails out of bounds or into the net.

The same special rules apply in the U18 division, aside from the second service opportunity. Notably, all teams must also consist of at least one female player who must remain on the court at all times.

Visit www.nmivolleyball.org for more information.

FREE THROWS

From Page 28

nothing but air and the second going too strong and hitting the back iron of the rim.

Espinosa then collared the rebound and Servitek was forced to give up a preemptive foul to stop the clock, which read at 6.7 seconds. Espinosa calmly sank both charities to give the ICS Shooters more breathing room, 63-60.

Servitek sued for time to orchestrate a play and it was pressed to pull up for a trey to send the game in overtime, but Simon Sebuu opted to drive to the basket and missed. Again, Espinosa hustled for the rebound and drew a foul on a Servitek defender. The ICS Shooters wingman went on to seal the win with his split in the last 1.5 seconds of the closely fought match.

The ICS Shooters had to rely on Espinosa's free throw shooting in the end after Servitek made a rally in the last one

minute of the game. The ICS Shooters, which dropped its debut after leading by twin digits against Chinatown last week, entered the final minute of the fourth with a 60-55 cushion after allowing no field goals and only four free throws to Servitek for more than five minutes or since the last deadlock of the match (51-all).

A breakaway layup from Dante Olivos off an ICS Shooters' error sliced the lead to three before a split from Webby Guntar upped the advantage to four. Servitek refused to give up and moved within one after Mican Bintz completed a 3-point play on the other end, 15.1 seconds to go in the fourth.

Servitek then gave up a quick foul on Corotan and the gamble paid off as the ICS Shooters quarterback missed the two charities and committed another booboo against Olivos. However, Olivos also failed to deliver for Servitek, while Espinosa came to the ICS Shooters' rescue in the end.

VILLAVICENCIO

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stayed in second place with her 668 pinfalls in Day 1. Bowlers are allowed to compete on both days of the tournament, but only the higher score is counted.

Villavicencio joined only the last Sunday event and was consistent in her first three games (162, 160, and 169) before showing her best game in the finale (191) for an average of 170.25 pinfalls. Soll had the early lead in Day 1 with her 163, 186, and 181 in the first three games, but dropped to second after making only 138 in Game 4 for an average of 167. Fa-

bie, who had 655 in Day 1, just fell 7 pinfalls short of overtaking Soll, as the former posted 163, 140, 180, and 179 and averaged 165.50. Soll also bowled twice in the January event, tallying 603 in Day 2.

Other participants in the January roll-offs were Gloria Omechelang (657), Cora Muna (647), Diane Chong (619), Carol McKenzie (154.75), Linda Yarobwemal (151), Ron Cal (595), Gigi Zapanta (560), Myrna Santos (555), and Lala Taitano (539).

Meanwhile, in the King of the Lanes, Raymond Zapanta foiled Robert Talavera's bid for another season-opener win. Zapanta

earned 839 pinfalls to beat the 799 of Talavera, who prevailed in the January roll-off last year against Raymond's youngest brother Raphael.

Raymond nearly recorded 200-plus pinfalls in all four games last Monday after logging 216 in Game 1 and 235 and 219 in Games 3 and 4. Adding his 169 in Game 2, the January winner earned an average of 209.75. Talavera had two 200-plus pinfall performance (230 and 225 in Games 1 and 4) and posted 149 and 195 in the two other games for an average of 199.75. Completing the Top 3 was 2012 King of the Lanes Simon Manacop, who led Day 1 with his 778 pin-

2012 SBA/Budweiser Season Finale Winners

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The Top 3 finishers in the 2012 Saipan Bowling Association/Fiji Water Prince of the Lanes Season Finale Tournament pose for a group photo during the awards ceremony at the Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe. From left, champion M.J. Aldan and runners-up Ryan Batac and Marcel McKenzie.



Queen of the Lanes tournament runner-up Yho Villavicencio poses with her prizes.



Queen of the Lanes third placer Tess Fabie.



Raymond Zapanta smiles for the camera after getting his third place prizes in the King of the Lanes tournament.



Ruselle Zapanta shows his runner-up trophy in the King of the Lanes tournament.



Gigi Zapanta, left, hands Gloria Omechelang a prize for joining the most tournaments in 2012.



King of the Lanes Simon Manacop is all smiles after getting his prize packages.



Queen of the Lanes Diane Camacho poses with her championship trophy.



J. Yong Kim, right, receives his fifth place prize from Gigi Zapanta.



Gigi Zapanta, left, hands Percy Omechelang a prize for competing in the most tournaments in 2012.



Woods wins at Torrey Pines for 8th time
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Saipan Tribune Sports



Fresh faces at quarterback in Super Bowl
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28 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Blue Haus inches closer to title



Blue Haus' Darwin Barbo, second from left, gets a hi-five from Mel Capalad after hitting the game-winning free throw during their title series opener against Lions Club/NMC Proa in the QQ Cup last Monday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Blue Haus eked out a thrilling 76-75 win over Lions Club/NMC Proa in Game 1 of the championship series in the 3rd QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup last Monday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.



Darwin Barbo made the winning basket to move Blue Haus one victory away from clinching the title in the best-of-three championship showdown. Barbo was clobbered by two Lions Club/NMC Proa defenders at the paint and drew a foul in the last two seconds of the fourth quarter with the game tied, 75-all. Barbo canned the first charity, but faltered on the second one with his airball shot.

Lions Club/NMC Proa then called a timeout, but failed to cash in on an important play at the resumption of the match. Dan Barcinas made the inbound play from the right sideline and passed the

See BLUE HAUS on Page 26

Free throws help ICS Shooters, Chinatown win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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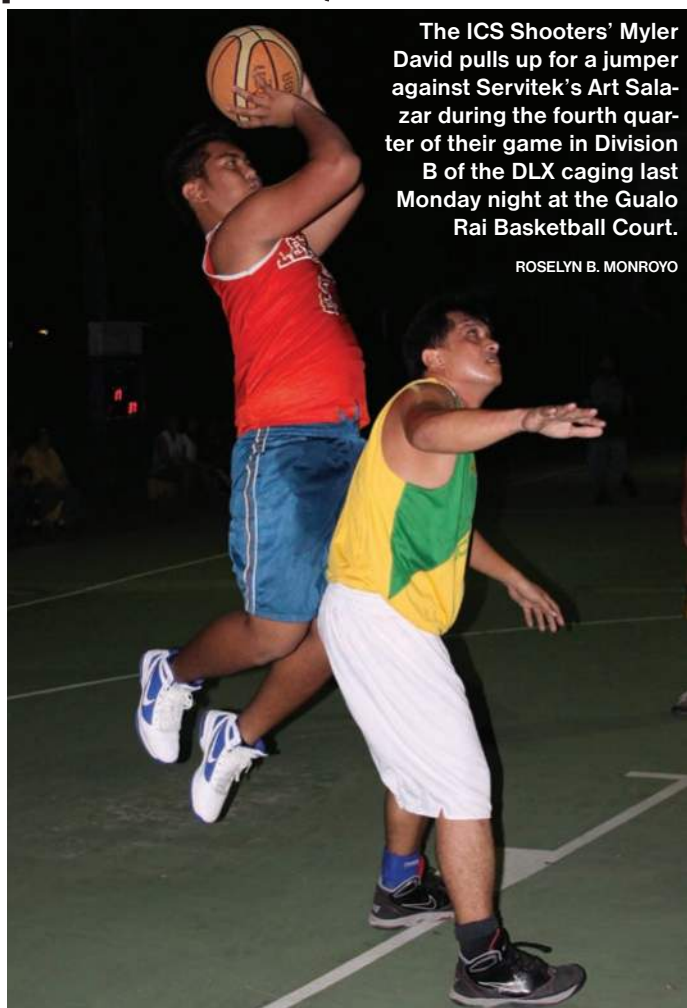
Good free throw shooting saved the ICS Shooters from another breakdown in Division B of the 2013 DLX/Anchor Strong Invitational Basketball League.

Neil Lawrence Espinosa went 3-for-4 from the stripe in the closing seconds of the second game last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court to lift the ICS Shooters to a 64-60 victory over Servitek.

Servitek absorbed its second straight loss after winning its debut over LD Prime last week, as Dante Olivos muffed crucial charities.

Down at 60-61, Servitek had a chance to grab the lead when Resty Corotan went 0-for-2 from the foul line and was called for a foul for pushing off Olivos in a battle for the loose ball at the right sideline after the latter's second miss. However, Olivos faltered on both charities with his first attempt hitting

See FREE THROWS on Page 26



The ICS Shooters' Myler David pulls up for a jumper against Servitek's Art Salazar during the fourth quarter of their game in Division B of the DLX caging last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Vacos slips past foe in beach volleyball

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Vacos' JR Gechig, Wilton Laniyo, Chenny Lizama, John Nekaifes, and Mili Saiki rallied past Dig This, Beaches during their game in

the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association's Sunset Co-ed Beach Volleyball Tournament last Friday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan sand courts.

Dig This, Beaches won the first set of the upper bracket semifinal, 21-18, but Vacos

erupted in the second set, 21-13, and rode the momentum into the deciding set for a 15-12 victory.

In other results, Manam'ko and Managaha survived last weekend's lower bracket and will face off this Friday at

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Manam'ko's Russ Quinn tries to send an overhand return past Harapwang Face's Barry Mality during a lower bracket pairing in the NMIVA Sunset Beach Volleyball Co-ed Tournament last Friday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan sand courts.

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